

Hafa Adai!

Gas down another 10 cents. **PAGE 2**

All set for today's gubernatorial debate. **PAGE 4**

\$1

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CNMI hosts 1st APP conference in years

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

The CNMI's first Association of Pacific Ports conference in 16 years garnered the participation of over 65 individuals representing ports from all across the Pacific. The conference, which lasted about three days, was held at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's ballroom.

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

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REPORTER

The CNMI hosted its first Association of Pacific Ports conference in 16 years which was held at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's ballroom.

According to Kimberly King-Hinds, Com-

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HOCOG SAYS:

Relying mainly on ARPA to fund personnel costs risky

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Sen. Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota) said Tuesday that the House of Representatives' action of using 80% of the American Rescue Plan Act money to fund the personnel costs of the government's departments and agencies, places the CNMI government and its employees in a detrimental financial risk should ARPA funds become unavailable to fund such costs in the following years.



Hocog

In a slide presentation during the Senate's press conference in the Senate chamber Hocog said Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig stated that the House's action to cover personnel costs at 80% or ARPA funds as opposed to the 20% coverage "is actually putting a hamper on the total availability for provisions of government for Fiscal Year 2023."

The senator said therefore, the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee agreed to restore personnel

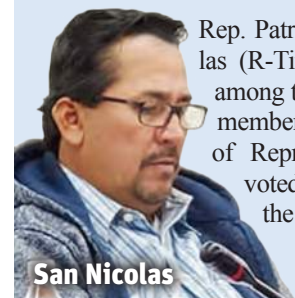
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SAN NICOLAS JUSTIFIES CHANGE OF HEART

'Senate budget version more clear, provides security'

» Rep. Celina Babauta questions minority members' change of tune

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER



Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas (R-Tinian), who were among the three minority members in the House of Representatives who voted "yes" to pass the House's bud-

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LOCAL

While world leaders from wealthy countries acknowledge the "existential threat" of climate change.

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BUSINESS

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid filing season starts Oct. 1 for the 2023-2024 school year.

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ENVIRONMENT

Young activists staged a coordinated "global climate strike" to highlight the effects of global warming and demand more aid for poor countries hit by wild weather.

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Local

Gas down another 10 cents

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The downward trend in fuel prices continues as local oil companies on Saipan dropped their prices by another 10 cents.

Local oil company Mobil Marianas surprised their customers with yet another decrease in oil prices yesterday

afternoon, just eight days since the last rollback.

Although Shell Marianas had yet to rollback its prices as of 5pm presstime, they are expected to follow suit today.

As of yesterday, Mobil now charges \$5.16 per gallon of its Extra fuel from \$5.26. Mobil also reduced its Supreme fuel from \$5.71 per gallon to \$5.61, while Diesel went down from \$6.48 per gallon to \$6.28.

For the past few months, the CNMI has seen a consistent downward trend in fuel prices.

Starting in the first week of July, the CNMI saw a series of rollbacks with fuel dropping from \$6.56 per gallon of regular fuel from the beginning of the month, to

now at \$5.16.

The first rollback was seen on July 5, with local oil companies reducing their prices by 15 cents from \$6.56 to \$6.41.

Then in the early hours of July 7, the CNMI saw the largest rollback by far when oil companies dropped their prices by 25 cents from \$6.41 to \$6.16.

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KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

As of yesterday, Mobil Oil Marianas charges \$5.16 for a gallon of its Extra, or regular, fuel following its third rollback for the month of September

The third rollback of July was seen last July 14, with fuel prices dropping to \$6.01.

The fourth rollback was seen last July 20 with fuel dropping another 15 cents from \$6.01 to \$5.86.

Then, just six days later, on July 26 the last rollback for the month of July brought fuel down from \$5.86 to \$5.71.

The next rollback was seen around the first week of August when fuel went from \$5.71 to \$5.61.

Then, in the first week of September, gas dropped again by another 20 cents bringing fuel down from \$5.61 to \$5.41, followed by yet another rollback on Sept. 20, with gas prices dropping to \$5.26 per gallon.

According to a 23-year-old motorist, the continuous rollback in fuel prices is a blessing especially for those in her line of work.

"I deliver food and although we get gas allowances, sometimes it comes from our own pockets if the allowance isn't enough for two weeks. I've noticed that

with gas decreasing a few cents every month, it adds up in the end. From a full tank of gas at almost \$80 in the beginning of the year to now at \$60, that's a blessing," she said.

Meanwhile, others remain concerned about the high utility prices.

According to a 26-year-old woman, an increase in gas is more manageable than the ridiculous utility bill she has had to pay as of late.

"As I work in an office and I don't live too far from my job, the increase in fuel prices was something I could manage. However, I don't understand why [the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.] continues to charge me these ridiculous monthly bills when gas has gone down significantly. I have two children who I want to be comfortable at home, so it's been hard to cut back on necessities like aircon, for example, as we live on an island. I hope CUC lowers its fuel charges now that gas is significantly lower," she said.

\$50K bail for man accused of burglarizing private shooting range

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

The Superior Court has imposed a \$50,000 cash bail on a man accused of burglarizing the privately owned shooting range called the American Gun Club, which is no longer in operation, on Tinian last month.

Last Tuesday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho imposed a \$50,000 cash bail on Dennis Sanchez Reyes, the man behind the alleged burglary of the American Gun Club on Tinian back on Aug. 19.

In a press release issued by the Department of Public Safety last Monday, a joint investigation between officers under the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force and Saipan and Tinian DPS officers led to the arrest of Reyes, 35.

Reyes, who remains under Department of Corrections custody for failure to post bail, is facing charges of burglary, theft, theft of a firearm, possession of a stolen firearm, failure to possess a firearms owner's identification card, sale and transfer prohibited, and person prohibited to possess ammunition.

The joint investigation also led to the execution of a search warrant on a private residence on Tinian, where 19 firearms were recovered. The recovered firearms are believed to be the ones stolen from the American Gun Club shooting range.

An extensive search was conducted at Goat Island as part of the investigation.

Following the bail hearing, Camacho ordered Reyes to return to court on Oct. 5, at 10am for a preliminary hearing while his arraignment was set for Oct. 17, at 9am.

Assistant public defender Vina Seelam was appointed by the court to represent Reyes while Chief Prosecutor Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

According to court documents, on Aug. 19, at around 6:53pm, DPS officers conducted a violator stop on a Department of Public Works truck after the vehicle was seen in operation after office hours. The operator of the vehicle was later identified as Reyes who is a heavy equipment operator with Tinian DPW.

The Nissan Frontier truck was later impounded by police and was brought back to DPS Tinian central for inventory.

The first initial inventory of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of numerous expended and unexpended .22 caliber cartridges, empty ammunition boxes, and numerous gun trigger locks that were cut/damaged.

Following the discovery of these items from Reyes' work

truck, police decided to conduct a patrol at the American

Gun Club shooting range to verify if the establishment was

safe and secured.

Officers decided to patrol the area as they knew that even though the shooting

range has been closed for some time, it still stores firearms and ammunition.

See \$50K on Next Page



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All set for today's gubernatorial debate

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

All is set for today's debate by gubernatorial candidates Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, and Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) at the Saipan World Resort's Taga Hall, according to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce yesterday.

"We are all set for tomorrow and now we are just playing the playing game for the event," said Joray Miranda, who is the financial and data management coordinator of



Torres



Palacios



Sablan

the Chamber.

The Chamber is hosting the 2022 CNMI Gubernatorial Candidate Debate that will start at 5:45pm. The general elections will be on Nov. 8, 2022.

Asked by *Saipan Tribune* if

he is ready for the debate, Torres replied "yes sir."

As of press time *Saipan Tribune* was still waiting for comments from Palacios and Sablan.

Miranda, in an interview yesterday afternoon, said for

this debate there is no winner as it depends on the public eye.

"So this is just to give information to the public... on what the candidates stand for so they have an easier time during the voting," he said.

Miranda said Torres, Palacios, and Sablan will be given five to 10 questions, but it's subject to change depending on how long they take to answer the questions.

He emphasized that the candidates were not given advanced questions as all of these will be passed during the debate.

BUDGET

From Page 1

get bill for government's operations for Fiscal Year 2023, explained during Tuesday's emergency session why he changed his mind and now supports the Senate version of the budget bill.

During discussions on a motion to reject the Senate's budget bill version, San Nicolas said although it is very obvious that the House and the Senate's versions differ considerably, he would like to state for the record that he will support the Senate version of the budget.

He said the Senate version is more clear and provides more security for government employees and most importantly the full time employees for the municipalities of Tinian and Rota.

"As we all know the end of fiscal year 2022 is this Friday, Sept. 30. Mr. Speaker, if we don't pass this budget, the government will partially shut down and many government employees will not be reporting to work," San Nicolas said.

He said the partial shut-down will have an immediate effect on the government employees' personal finances as well as public services in the community.

San Nicolas is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee that conducted budget hearings. He, minority

leader Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), and Rep. Roy Christopher A. Ada (R-Saipan) voted "yes" to the House's budget bill last Aug. 27, but on Tuesday voted "no" to the rejection of the Senate's budget version.

Reps. Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) and Joseph A. Flores (Ind-Saipan), who were absent when the House passed their version of the budget on Aug. 27, were among the five who voted "no" to the rejection of the Senate version.

In addressing Rep. Richard T. Lizama's (D-Saipan) concern that retirees may not be getting pension benefits if there is insufficient funds, Ada said the Torres administration has not failed the retirees in getting their pension benefits.

Ada said on top of that, the Torres administration also found money to give some bonuses to the retirees.

"I think this administration has done a good job with making sure that retirees are taken care of," he said.

In regards to the liaison office to take care of off island students and medical referral, Ada said he agrees that the medical referral program should be under the hospital.

"But then the hardship that people have been talking about ever since that transition happened, the resources and the benefits that were afforded to them when the medical referral was under the Executive Branch, is no

longer allowed under CHCC (Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.)," he said.

Ada said this liaison office will help the medical referral patients out there get the services that they need.

He said right now what he heard is that the Medical Referral Office under CHCC now requires medical referral patients to utilize Uber.

"These are our people and we know how to treat our people," the lawmaker said.

Ada said he does not know if an Uber driver could assist these patients as it is uncertain what kind of vehicle is going to show up when calling for an Uber driver.

"So I think that the liaison office under the Executive Branch with this new office is a good idea. I am in full support of the Senate version," Ada said.

Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) said Rep. Ada voted "yes" to the House version and agreed last Aug. 27 when they passed the bill that the House version was the best that they could come up with.

"I want to remind you of your agreement and your 'yes' vote," Celina Babauta told Ada.

She said as to Ada's comments that he agrees with a new liaison office under the Governor's Office, it is nothing a redundant office and only creates a lot of bureaucracies and inefficiencies.

As to San Nicolas, she said the Tinian lawmaker also voted

benefits for FY 2023.

He said the Senate, in line with the governor's commitment, ensures to continue supporting the retirees pension benefit.

Sablan said through the re-programming authority of the governor pursuant to the Commonwealth Code, the Senate is confident that every effort will be made to identify funds for the remaining three quarters of FY 2023.

Sen. Karl King-Nabors (R-Tinian) said regarding full time employees funded under ARPA, the House eliminated

"yes" to the House's version.

"You definitely, you are a member unlike Rep. Ada, you are a member of the Ways and Means Committee. You raised no concerns. You did not bring up any financial needs of the Municipality of Tinian," Celina Babauta said.

San Nicolas repeatedly raised his hand to say something, but House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) did not recognize him as Babauta continued talking.

"Your silence tells us you agreed with all our debates, all our discussions, and that we were trying to be fair to everybody, all municipalities. And we did not hear from you," Celina Babauta said.

Rep. Corina L. Magofna (Ind-Saipan) basically reiterated what he explained in the House majority's recent press conference with regards to the authority that the Legislature has on the allocation of the American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Magofna said the governor and the Senate appear to be in agreement that the House has no legal authority to allocate ARPA funds.

She said the House firmly maintains its position that it has the legal authority to allocate the ARPA funds identified in the governor's revised budget submission.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

"None of these questions have been referred to the candidates," Miranda said.

He said there is a forum that they did and these questions will be randomly picked from the forum during the debate.

Patti Arroyo will serve as the moderator. The event is

open to the public. Tickets are \$10 each.

No campaign materials, literature, hats, stickers, signs, banners, or the like shall be displayed or distributed at or around the debate venue, according to the chamber's rules.

APP

From Page 1

monwealth Ports Authority chair and previous APP president, the CNMI hasn't hosted the APP conference since 2006 and she is glad to have put Saipan back in the rotation to host such an important annual event.

The APP's 108th annual conference began last Monday and concluded yesterday with over 65 participants from all across the Pacific.

"It was an amazing turnout. We had over 65 participants from all over the world to include the UK, Fiji, Canada, participants from up and down the west coast and across the Pacific," she said.

King-Hinds stated the APP conference is of great importance as it is an opportunity for ports across the Pacific share their challenges and ideas to help their fellow ports in the Pacific flourish.

"This is an opportunity for ports to come together to share their challenges, to share their best practices, so that we can all learn from each other. It's also an opportunity to talk to our industry partners to include folks who are at the cutting edge of innovation, in terms of technology. That's an opportunity for us to see what's out there, and learn from them how we can be more efficient and increase our productivity," King-Hinds said.

When asked what the highlight of the conference was, King-Hinds said it was hearing from other smaller ports in the Pacific who shared similar

challenges with CPA and to get feedback on how to possibly resolve them.

"The highlight of the conference, I would have to say, is hearing from the smaller ports in the Pacific, and to share the similar challenges that we're all facing, especially with Guam and the CNMI. We are smaller ports, and so we rely heavily on federal funding to help out with port infrastructure and port development. One of the challenges that keeps coming up is this issue with having to buy American, as well as certain components within grant applications that requires applicants to ensure that the benefit to the community outweighs the cost of certain infrastructure projects, which is always going to be a challenge out here because of the population. And so being able to, you know, connect, and have those discussions and come up with a unified position in terms of those issues, and raising and elevating those issues to our federal grantors, to me, personally, was the highlight of this conference," the CPA chair said.

However, for most of the participants, King-Hinds proudly said the highlight was the newfound friendships and partnerships.

"But I think for everybody here, because you have people who've never been out here before, the opportunity to come out and hear about smaller ports was eye opening for them. We've made some really good friends and also developed strong partnerships so that they can help the Marianas advocate," she said.

\$50K

From Page 3

At around 9:17pm that same night, officers discovered signs of forced entry at the shooting range's main entrance, and armory door.

After speaking with the owner of the establishment, police were able to determine that about 19 firearms had been stolen.

The owner of the shooting range also informed police that he had seen an individual earlier on with a rifle that resembled one of the rifles that were stolen from the armory.

Police spoke with the owner of said rifle, who police identified as a cooperating source, who informed police that the rifle may have come from

Reyes because "word on the street" was that he was selling firearms.

At around 10am on Aug. 20, police procured keys from the shooting range to see if any of the keys belonged to the gun locks seized from Reyes' work truck. All 18 gun locks found in Reyes' vehicle were unlocked by the keys taken from the shooting range.

In an interview with DPW department head Joel Untalan, he confirmed that the vehicle has only ever been operated by Reyes.

The CNMI DETF later arranged a buy-walk operation with the cooperating source to purchase firearms from Reyes.

The cooperating source was able to purchase a rifle and two handguns from Reyes during the operation.

ARPA

From Page 1

costs funded at 20% ARPA, and 80% local revenue.

"So what the Senate did is that they reversed the investment of funding to fund the operations of government and other agencies by putting back the 80% of local funds and revert back to 20% from ARPA to support other departments with their needs," Hocog said, referring to the Senate's unanimous passing of their budget version Friday.

Sen. Vinnie F. Sablan (R-Saipan) in his presentation regarding the 25% retiree pension benefits, noted that the House allocated \$13.6 million to fund the 25% retiree pension benefits despite their knowledge that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Finance Secretary Atalig acknowledged that funds have already been identified for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2023 to cover the retirees pension benefits.

Sablan said this would come from the community disaster loan to fund retirees pension

FOR GOVT LAWYERS TO PRACTICE LAW SANS BAR EXAM

Proposal to hike requirement to 8 years gets AG, Lizama support

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI Attorney General Edward E. Manibusan and former Superior Court associate judge Juan T. Lizama both are in support of the CNMI Supreme Court's interim proposed rule that seeks to increase from four years to a maximum of eight years the time allowed for recruited government lawyers to practice in the Commonwealth without requiring them to pass the NMI Bar examination.

Manibusan and Lizama expressed their opinion about the high court's interim proposed rule in their testimony before the House of Representatives Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee chaired by Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) that conducted a public hearing on the proposed rule and other legislations at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Supe Thursday night.

Manibusan is seeking reelection for the AG position in the Nov. 8 general elections. Lizama is also a candidate for the position.

CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro C.

Castro informed the Legislature early last month that their proposed Rule 73-2 of Title 9, Rules of Admission, provides for one four-year extension.

Castro said the proposed Rule 73-2 becomes effective 60 days after the submission, unless disapproved by a majority of the members of either Senate or House.

Manibusan said the proposed Rule 73-2 amends the rules of admission to permit a one-time extension of the limited government attorney license to allow them to represent the commonwealth government, or Micronesian Legal Services Corp., for up to eight years without getting the NMI Bar examination.

The AG said the interim rule also requires all attorneys admitted to practice pursuant to Rule 73-2 participate in Judiciary Committee community outreach program.

"In my capacity as the chief legal officer of the commonwealth government responsible for providing legal advice to the governor and all executive departments, representing the Commonwealth in all legal matters, and prosecuting violations of commonwealth law, I fully support the interim

rule," Manibusan said.

He said recruitment and retention for government attorneys are a challenge for the Commonwealth and that it is exacerbated by the four-year limitation.

Manibusan said having served nearly seven and a half years now as AG he finds that many government attorneys provide the Bar examination requirements as the primary reason for not renewing the contract of employment.

Manibusan said other attorneys leave because they have not invested in forming a strong and permanent community within the Commonwealth largely because the Bar examination requirements set an initial expectation that their time on island would be temporary.

He said the turnover of attorneys with four years of experience practicing in the Commonwealth after gaining familiarity with the customs and culture of the people and agencies and expertise with Commonwealth laws results in significant expense to the Commonwealth.

Manibusan noted that the costs of hiring a new attorney to replace one, who is cur-

rently employed by the CNMI government entity, is no less than \$14,000.

He said this amount does not include the time and expense of training new attorney in Commonwealth practice and substantive law.

He said in order to be granted limited admission pursuant to Rule 73-2, the attorney applicant must be licensed to practice in an ABA approved jurisdiction.

Manibusan said government attorneys granted limited admission cannot work in private practice without getting the CNMI Bar so they do not represent any competition to locally hired attorneys for non governmental clients.

The AG said in addition, even without passing the CNMI Bar, these attorneys have more knowledge of Commonwealth laws and provide more experienced and knowledgeable service to the Commonwealth than a new off-island hire.

He said to qualify for an extension the applicant must continue to meet all requirements for limited admission, including maintaining good standing in every jurisdiction in which the attorney is

admitted.

Manibusan said in the interest in enhancing the CNMI government ability to recruit and retain experienced attorney, government attorneys to serve the Commonwealth, and reduce government expense and reduce the expenses associated with new hiring from off island, he urged the JGO Committee to approve the interim proposed rule.

Lizama said he himself believe that it is very difficult task to recruit attorneys to the islands. Lizama said the observations that he found over the years is that most of them anyway, stay in the government.

"So it really doesn't affect much the private sector. But it denies of course for them to try and take the Bar just for the show, perhaps maybe," he said.

Lizama said there is no impediment for trying to pass the Bar. He said if an attorney comes in and works for the government, be in the Office of the Attorney General or in any of the branches of the government, the prerogative or the discretion of the supervisor of that attorney remains the same.

"So there's really no impediment to not approve this proposed rule of admission," said the former judge.

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\$10K bail for man accused of stalking wife, violating protection order

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has imposed a \$10,000 cash bail on a man accused of violating a court issued protection or-

dered taken out by his wife who he allegedly stalked and threatened to kill.

Last Monday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed a \$10,000 cash bail on Jeffrey

Lee Hoashi Borja.

Borja, 51, is currently facing charges of assault, disturbing the peace, and violating an order of protection.

At the hearing, Borja was represented by assistant public defender Tyler Scott while assistant attorney general Steven Kessel appeared for the government.

Following the bail hearing, Govendo remanded the defendant back to the Department of Corrections custody. Borja ordered to return to court on Oct. 6 at 1:30pm for a preliminary hearing which his arraignment

was set for Oct. 17 at 9am.

According to court documents, at around 3:08pm on Sept. 23, Department of Public Safety officers responded to report of a disturbance in a supermarket in Garapan.

A woman, who identified herself as Borja's cousin, told police that she was with Borja's wife to buy food at the supermarket.

She said they were about to leave the supermarket when a white sedan driven by Borja parked beside the van that they were in, blocking them.

Borja exited the white sedan

and approached his wife who was in the passenger seat and asked her to "give him another chance."

Borja then reached for the front passenger side door and opened it, but his wife was able to close it back.

Borja's cousin said she and his wife began to panic as he got mad, shouting and threatening to kill them both.

A witness told police that she saw a man, later identified as Borja, standing beside a van shouting.

The witness also saw Borja punch the front passenger side

window. The witness said she asked the man to leave. Borja then drove away from the area.

On the same day, police were called again because Borja was allegedly following his wife and cousin to the Tinian Liaison Building on Navy Hill and to the Commonwealth Health Center dialysis center.

The two women told police that Borja watched them from inside his car.

Borja's wife informed police that there was an active order of protection against the defendant signed by Judge Wesley Bogdan last Sept. 21.



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING NOTICE



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Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a **Special Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **September 30, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the MVA Conference Room.**

The Marianas
I. Merges I. Tinian I. Rota I.

MEETING AGENDA

- 1) **Preliminary Matters**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
- 2) **Public Comments**
- 3) **Committee Reports**
 - a. Finance Committee
 - i. Fund Status
 - ii. Reprogramming of Funds
 - iii. CDBG-DR
- 4) **Old Business**
 - a. MVA-ITB-21-2040 Acquisition of Riding Mower for MVA Tinian and MVA Rota
- 5) **New Business**
 - a. Public Notice of Adoption of Amendments to the Procurement Regulations for the Marianas Visitors Authority
 - b. ITB: Acquisition of Two Motor Vehicles for MVA Tinian and MVA Rota
 - c. 2nd Annual Tipiyeew-Inafa'maolek Marianas Day
- 6) **Executive Session**
- 7) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
- 8) **Adjournment**

/s/ Viola Alepuyo
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors



NMC OSAL GOES TO TINIAN

Northern Marianas College student leaders and staff came together to connect with NMC Tinian students to discuss student needs last Sept. 16. NMC's Office of Student Activities and Leadership (OSAL) also helped establish a Tinian-based student club that focuses on promoting health and wellness to their fellow students and community members. In photo, from left, are Jennielyn Cruz, Realynn Palacios Martinez, NMC OSAL Program manager Alexis Cabrera-Manglona, NMC OSAL Program coordinator Maia Pangelinan, Genae Forbes, Shannon Sasamoto, Jodrik Mendiola, Kaia Lazaro, Euneen Mendiola, Rudynna Walker, CherryMae Penaranda, Lisa Aguon, Jefferson Cunanan, Tyrone Aquininoc, and Henry San Nicolas Jr.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS CUC-RSQ-22-037

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR CUC'S SUSTAINABLE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (SWIMS) PROGRAM

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting Statement of Qualifications from qualified firms for Program Management Services for CUC's Sustainable Water Infrastructure Management Strategy (SWIMS) program. This is a comprehensive planning, investigation, design, construction and operations approach to manage Non-Revenue Water and the delivery of safe and affordable drinking water to the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposed program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). All work is subject to grantors approval.

The RSQ package will be provided via email to the registered email ID upon completion of registration at the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the RSQ must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RSQ 22-037, Request for Statement of Qualifications for Program Management Services for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's Sustainable Water Infrastructure Management Strategy (SWIMS) Program" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 11, 2022**. Statements of Qualifications mailed via postal or courier service must be received or postmarked on or before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A&E firms are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the A&E firms due to a lack of information or understanding of the RSQ requirements in the course of the Consultant's preparation of an SOQ under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible/qualified A&E firms who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible to being selected for the award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. A&E firms shall be accorded fair and equal during discussions; there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

This RSQ does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of statements of qualifications in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC procurement regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable federal regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 20, 2022**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Larry Manacop, CUC Acting Water/Wastewater Chief Engineer via email address larry.manacop@cucgov.org, and Christie Sablan, Administrative Technician Senior via email address, christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all Statement of Qualifications for any reason and to waive any defects in said RSQ, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All Statement of Qualifications shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-22-039

GARAPAN SEWER MAINS AND MANHOLES REPLACEMENTS (CORAL TREE AVE., DATE STREET, CPL DERENCE JACK ROAD, PLUMERIA AVENUE, PALM STREET, GINGER AVENUE AND ROYAL PALM AVENUE)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Garapan Sewer Mains and Manholes Replacements (Coral Tree Avenue, Date Street, CPL Derence Jack Road, Plumeria Avenue, Palm Street, Ginger Avenue and Royal Palm Avenue) in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists of but not limited to the installation of gravity sewer main, new sewer manholes, replacement and rehabilitation of sewer manholes, new service laterals, connection to existing service laterals, relocation of existing 10-inch waterline and the abandonment of existing sewer line, removal and removal and disposal of existing sewer manholes.

The project is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Infrastructure Recovery Program (IRP) office of the Governor. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from ARPA/IRP.

CUC requires the project to be completed in **300 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **September 19, 2022 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-22-039, Garapan Sewer Mains and Manholes Replacements - Coral Tree Avenue, Date Street, CPL Derence Jack Road, Plumeria Avenue, Palm Street, Ginger Avenue and Royal Palm Avenue" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 12, 2022**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.

A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 21, 2022** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to Larry Manacop, Acting Chief Engineer via email at larry.manacop@cucgov.org, Dennis Formalejo, Engineer via email at dennis.formalejo@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Purchasing Technician Senior, via email address at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Drowning island nations: 'This is how a Pacific atoll dies'

By PIA SARKAR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

While world leaders from wealthy countries acknowledge the “existential threat” of climate change, Tuvalu Prime Minister Kauea Natano is racing to save his tiny island nation from drowning by raising it four to five meters above sea level through land reclamation.

While experts issue warnings about the eventual uninhabitability of the Marshall Islands, President David Kabua must reconcile the inequity of a seawall built to protect one house that is now flooding another one next door.

That is the reality of climate change: Some people get to talk about it from afar, while others must live it every day.

Natano and Kabua tried to show that reality on Wednesday on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly. Together they launched the Rising Nations Initiative, a global partnership aimed to preserve the sovereignty, heritage and rights of Pacific atoll island nations whose very existence have been threatened by climate change.

Natano described how rising sea levels have impacted everything from the soil that his people rely on to plant crops, to the homes, roads and power lines that get washed away. The cost of eking out a living, he said, eventually becomes too much to bear, causing families to leave and the nation

itself to disappear.

“This is how a Pacific atoll dies,” Natano said. “This is how our islands will cease to exist.”

The Rising Nations Initiative seeks a political declaration by the international community to preserve the sovereignty and rights of Pacific atoll island countries; the creation of a comprehensive program to build and finance adaptation and resilience projects to help local communities sustain livelihoods; a living repository of the culture and unique heritage of each Pacific atoll island country; and support to acquire UNESCO World Heritage designation.

The initiative has already gained the support of countries like the United States, Germany, South Korea and Canada, all of which have acknowledged the unique burden that island nations like Tuvalu and the Marshall Islands must shoulder.

A U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report released in February spelled out the vulnerability of small island developing states and other global hotspots like Africa and South Asia, whose populations are 15 times more likely to die from extreme weather compared to less vulnerable parts of the world.

If warming exceeds a few more tenths of a degree, it could lead to some areas — including some small islands — becoming uninhabitable, said report co-author Adelle Thomas of Climate Analytics and the University of the



President of the Marshall Islands David Kabua addresses the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly, at U.N. headquarters, Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2022.

Bahamas. On Wednesday, Natano noted that Tuvalu and its Pacific neighbors “have done nothing to cause climate change,” with their carbon emission contribution amounting to less than .03% of the world’s total.

“This is the first time in history that the collective action of many nations will have made several sovereign countries uninhabitable,” he said.

Representatives from

other nations who attended Wednesday’s event did not deflect responsibility. But whether they will do enough to turn things around remains to be seen.

Several have pledged money to help island nations pay for early warning systems and bring their buildings up to code to better protect them from hurricanes and other weather events. But there was less talk of mitigating the problem of climate

change and more about how to adapt to the devastation it has already wrought.

“We see this train coming, and it’s coming down the track, and we need to get out of the way,” said Amy Pope, deputy director general of the International Organization for Migration.

Germany’s climate envoy, Jennifer Morgan, who also attended Wednesday’s event, spoke of her country’s target to reach carbon neutrality by 2045. But while Germany remains committed to phasing out coal as a power source by 2030, it has had to reactivate coal-fired power plants to get through the coming winter amid energy shortages as a result of Russia’s war in Ukraine.

For the president of the Marshall Islands, wealthy nations could be doing much more. During his speech to the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday, Kabua urged world leaders to take on sectors that rely on fossil fuels,

including aviation and shipping. He pointed to the Marshall Islands’ carbon levy proposal for international shipping that he says “will drive the transition to zero emission shipping, channeling resources from polluters to the most vulnerable.”

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has likewise encouraged going after the world’s largest polluters. During his opening remarks to the assembly on Tuesday, he pushed for richer countries to tax the profits of energy companies and redirect the funds to both “countries suffering loss and damage caused by the climate crisis” and those struggling with the rising cost of living.

In the meantime, as wealthy countries urge action instead of words in their own U.N. speeches, Kabua, Natano and their fellow island nation leaders will continue to grapple with their daily climate change reality — and try to continue to exist.

PUBLIC NOTICE



This is to inform the public that **AIMEE LLAMAS LERUM** is no longer connected with **SMJ Corporation dba: MJ Roadside Vendor** since September 7, 2022.

Any transaction made or entered by her after the above-mentioned date will no longer be honored by the company.

With this notice, SMJ Corporation will be released of any liability/responsibility for the above-mentioned employee.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP22-CHCC/NCDB-027

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCT. 17TH, 2022 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)
“NCD-CHW 2022 PROGRAM EVALUATION”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.HEALTH]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE BUREAU (NCDB)
RFP22-CHCC/NCDB-028

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCT. 27TH, 2022 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)
“NCD/CBH AND RISK FACTOR HYBRID SURVEY”

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP22-CHCC/CGC-026

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCT. 17TH, 2022 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)
“COMPREHENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT APPLICATION”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.HEALTH]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

Opinion

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Climate change already torments the poor. It will soon come for the rich

A new study might finally get the attention of industrial leaders and others who have shrugged off the threat of human-caused climate change. It finds that more than half a million privately owned parcels of coastal property—the kind of property generally held by the well-heeled—could be underwater by 2050.

Studies galore lately have warned that global warming trends today are surpassing even the worst-case scenarios of just a few years ago. So much new data and dire pronouncements from scientists have emerged, in fact, that it's easy to let it become numbing. Even apocalyptic data, in the abstract, is still abstract.

But the analysis published this month by the research nonprofit Climate Central puts the issue into a context of dollars and acreage that could be useful driving home this urgent message to those who might otherwise be disinclined to listen to it.

The organization took existing data on predicted sea level rise and analyzed it against coastal property records across the U.S. What it found was that almost 650,000 parcels of privately owned land, across more than 4 million acres, will be below projected tidal boundaries by 2050. The lost real estate will be largely along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts.

The report lays out some truly sobering ripple effects of the loss of this land, including eroding tax bases for local governments “as property owners object to paying taxes on submerged land.” That's the kind of projection that might, finally, get through to people who have been blithely or doggedly refusing to acknowledge the crisis at hand.

As one of the experts involved in the study told *The Washington Post*, “People really haven't internalized that yet—that ‘Hey, I'm going to have something taken away from me by the sea.’” The specter of one's upscale beachfront condo becoming effectively worthless in the relatively near future due to the shortsightedness of industrial societies could be just the wakeup call that's needed.

The primary sufferers of the effects of climate change so far have generally been the poor—particularly developing-world citizens wracked by droughts and flooding in societies that don't function well even when the weather cooperates. In the U.S., California wildfires, increased instances of Gulf hurricanes and other global-warming fallout makes the already-challenging lives of working-class Americans more so.

The wealthy—a group that includes those who control an industrial sector that has for years stymied attempts to confront climate change—generally have the resources and mobility to keep themselves out of harm's way,

See CLIMATE on Next Page



Biden pokes at China again over Taiwan. At what cost to US national interests?

President Joe Biden's foreign policy deserves higher marks than most have given it. Biden boldly pulled the plug on the Afghanistan quagmire, so that Americans could stop hemorrhaging blood and treasure in an endless war. He has performed a delicate “Goldilocks routine” with respect to Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine: giving a vital assist to save Kyiv, while balancing that support with caution, asserting, “We're trying to avoid World War III.”

That statement makes his recent remark on “60 Minutes” with respect to Taiwan all the more puzzling. If trying to avoid a devastating great-power conflict is among the president's foremost goals, as it should be, this comment appears clearly to tack in the opposite direction.

One would be tempted to put it down as a misunderstanding, but the record shows that this is Biden's fourth time making such an assertion. And, of course, it's the fourth time that his administration was quick to note, following the president's remarks, that there is no change in U.S. policy. The president seems quite content to put his own interventionist spin on “strategic ambiguity,” but does he realize he is lighting the fuse for national and international disaster?

The president's actions are reckless from practically all perspectives. Economically, increased tensions with China are certain to put further downward pressure on the stock market, while continuing to fuel inflation. U.S.-China decoupling may serve some narrow economic interests but hurts more sectors than it helps, including critically agriculture and aviation.

From a historical perspective, Biden's comments are also misguided. Does the president not recognize that Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman went on record stating emphatically that Taiwan is part of China? Is he not aware that the whole point of President Richard Nixon's wise triangular diplomacy in 1972 was to “trade” Taiwan for U.S.-China normalization? Biden's odd suggestion in the “60 Minutes” interview that the U.S. respects the “one-China policy,” but also is indifferent to whether Taiwan pursues independence, represents a curious bit of verbal gymnastics that defies common sense.

Then, there is the constitutional perspective. If the president does not have the power to declare war, and we do not have a treaty alliance with Taiwan, how can the president on his own accord declare that the U.S. will defend this island just 90 miles off China's shores? In fact, before making such an open-ended

By **LYLE GOLDSTEIN**
Chicago Tribune

Lyle Goldstein is director of Asia engagement at the Washington think tank Defense Priorities, a visiting professor at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, and the author of Meeting China Half-way: How to Defuse the Emerging US-China Rivalry.



commitment, Americans might want to reflect on the problem that parts of the Republic of China, Taiwan's formal name, are a mere 6 miles off the Chinese coast.

From a diplomatic perspective, the president's comments seem awkward at best. How to explain that Ukraine is a sovereign state but not worthy of defense by the U.S. military? Yet, Taiwan somehow is worthy, even if it is not recognized as a state by the U.S. or most other nations? Perhaps Europe is not as important as East Asia?

Indeed, such dubious diplomatic reasoning is reflected in the fact that counting the number of allies in East Asia that would pony up forces to assist the U.S. in a Taiwan scenario would hardly require the fingers on one hand.

And then there is the question of strategy. While the U.S. is running high risks to support Ukraine's war with Russia, does it make sense to alienate China to such a high degree?

At best, Washington's belligerence ensures that the trajectory of China-Russia cooperation will only intensify. At worst, the U.S. could be facing a two-front war with two formidable nuclear powers. Putting Russia aside, U.S. military prospects in a Taiwan conflict are actually not good at all.

A recent war game by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a national security think tank, reported that the U.S. could prevail but at the horrendous cost of 700 aircraft, two aircraft carriers and 20 surface ships. To my reckoning, that estimate may be too optimistic. Indeed, if China needs to be confronted militarily (and that's unlikely), Taiwan is precisely the wrong place to try to do that.

So the president seems to be muddled on Taiwan, whether

See BIDEN on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Prevent a legal Catch-22 that could push thousands of generic drugs off the market

By MICHAEL A. CARRIER, CHARLES DUAN, and S. SEAN TU
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Carvedilol could be the poster child for how to lower drug prices. Since 2007, more than 20 million patients with cardiovascular conditions have enjoyed generic versions of the popular beta-blocker, which cost 2 cents a dose compared with \$4.81 for the brand-name product. Patents on the drug Coreg, dating back to 1978, have long expired, enabling these price-saving generics.

Yet this year, a federal jury deemed one generic carvedilol maker in violation of a patent to the tune of \$235 million. The possibility that a patent can cut off a 15-year-old generic market on a half-century-old drug and raise prices by nearly 24,000% is an alarming development at a time that health care costs are already skyrocketing.

Many have debated the role of patents in the present drug pricing crisis, but the carvedilol case highlights a certain type of problem patent, one that exploits safety regulations and federal drug laws to block competition. Brand-name drug-maker GlaxoSmithKline's patent in the case was a "method of use" patent, which covers not the drug itself but its use in treating a disease or condition. These can pop up years after the initial patents on a drug have expired.

Congress knew this could happen and created a pathway called "skinny labeling" that, for decades, has allowed generics to bring low-cost drugs to consumers, avoiding method-of-use patents without fear of liability. A skinny-labeled generic drug is one with instructions on the drug label that omit diseases or conditions listed in the method-of-use patent. The skinny label would list only other conditions. Instructions on dosage, administration and safety must remain identical to

preapproved FDA text.

Generic carvedilol manufacturer Teva Pharmaceuticals followed the skinny labeling pathway to a T. Yet a federal appeals court said that Teva violated the patent. That decision leaves the skinny labeling law so meaningless that it might as well not exist, calling into question the legal status of potentially thousands of widely used generics.

Worse yet, the basis for Teva's violation was the packaging label text on the dosing and use of the drug. Changing that text would potentially have rendered Teva's carvedilol product less safe for use, and most likely unfit for approval. Thus Teva was placed in a catch-22. It could comply with federal drug labeling mandates but only by infringing the patent. This is the exact situation that skinny labeling was designed to prevent.

This "mandatory infringement" strategy—comply with a regulatory body and face patent liability—is far from new. In the early 2000s, 3M patented a new type of albuterol inhaler and convinced the FDA to ban the generic alternatives. The essential asthma medication became so expensive that some patients could no longer afford it. Similarly, a decade earlier, Unocal persuaded a California environmental agency to adopt standards for cleaner-burning gasoline, and then announced it had patented the standard, demanding royalty payments that raised prices at pumps across the nation. Mandatory infringement works to place competitors between Scylla and Charybdis, forcing them out of the market and thereby harming consumers.

Should this theory of mandatory patent infringement stand, other brand-name firms will use the Teva case as a roadmap to block generics from competing in the U.S. market. We should expect a flood of skinny-label cases. The number of method-of-use patents has increased more than sixfold between 2001

and 2019, while the number of corresponding drugs has not increased at anything close to the same rate.

The risks for generic firms are staggering. Teva has had \$74 million in revenue from carvedilol, but now risks being forced to end sales in the U.S. and pay a penalty of more than \$150 million. Other generic makers are unlikely to take the same risk against patent holders, leaving patients paying monopoly prices on what ought to be off-patent drugs. These results harm the most vulnerable patients who may not be able to afford high-priced brand drugs.

To prevent this outcome, the first step is to correct the law. The appeals court in *GlaxoSmithKline v. Teva* erred by ignoring the skinny labeling and drug safety laws in determining what counts as infringement. Teva has asked the Supreme Court to reconsider the case; the court should do so.

Policymakers also need to address mandatory infringement overall, by better understanding how patents interact with Food and Drug Administration regulations and other regulatory agencies. The FDA and U.S. Patent and Trademark Office already announced their intention to work together on drug prices, part of the Biden administration's competition initiatives. How patents and skinny labels affect generic drug approvals should be prominent on the agencies' agendas. Drawing attention to these problems will ensure that patents and safety regulations do not become tools that powerful firms can anti-competitively exploit, but instead serve their intended purposes of enhancing public welfare.

Michael A. Carrier is a professor of law at Rutgers Law School, Charles Duan is a postdoctoral fellow at Cornell Law School, and S. Sean Tu is a professor of law at West Virginia University. They filed an amicus curiae brief in the GlaxoSmithKline v. Teva case.

Trump's surprising legacy: More female candidates—in both parties

Donald Trump's upset victory over Hillary Clinton in 2016 inspired a surge in political activism among Democratic women. Six years later, that energy remains mostly intact—and has spread to the Republican Party as well.

Beginning with the Women's March in 2017, held on Trump's first full day as president, the anti-Trump "resistance" movement spoke with a distinctly female voice. Scholars and journalists who examined grassroots liberal politics during the Trump years observed a proliferation of women-led citizen networks dedicated to defeating the president and his Republican allies.

One way they did this was by deciding to become candidates themselves. The share of Democratic nominees for the U.S. House of Representatives who were women jumped from 29% in the 2016 election—a record at the time—to 42% in 2018, rising again to 48% in 2020. And as more women ran for office,

more women won. The number of Democratic women increased from 62 to 89 in the House, from 14 to 16 in the Senate, and from 3 to 6 in state governorships over the four years of the Trump presidency, according to data compiled by the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University.

Trump's defeat in 2020 raised the question of whether this activism among women would persist once he was no longer president. Had the "resistance" resulted in greater female representation in the Democratic Party? Or would passion fade without the constant fuel provided by Trump's presence in the White House?

The recent conclusion of the 2022 nomination season provides an opportunity for some preliminary analysis. According to figures I've compiled, women constitute 43% of all Democratic nominees for U.S. House seats this year—a modest decline from 2020, but roughly equal to 2018 and well above any previous election. Women represent 40% of Democratic nominees for Senate or governor in 2022, marking a new record (the previous high was 38% in 2018).

But a relatively challenging political environment means that the raw number of female Democrats in office won't increase much—or at all—after this fall's elections, even if the gender balance within the party continues to shift.

Democratic Senators Catherine Cortez Masto of Nevada and Maggie Hassan of New Hampshire are both seeking second terms in perennially competitive states, while election forecasters suggest that at least a dozen Democratic women in the House are at serious risk of losing their seats. In governor's races, a near-certain Democratic pickup by a female candidate in Massachusetts and a decent chance of victory in Arizona could be offset by potential losses in Kansas and Oregon.

In fact, it's quite possible that most newly elected women next year will serve on the opposite side of the partisan aisle. Republican leaders and interest groups have responded to the recent wave of female Democratic candidates by aggressively recruiting more female candidates of their own. The proportion of Republican House nominees who are women increased from 13% in 2018 to 22% in 2020 and 19% this year. Women also constitute 21% of Republican Senate or gubernatorial nominees in 2022, representing a historical high point for the party.

Republican women are virtually assured of picking up a Sen-

By DAVID A. HOPKINS
Bloomberg Opinion

David A. Hopkins is an associate professor of political science at Boston College and the author of Red Fighting Blue: How Geography and Electoral Rules Polarize American Politics.



ate seat in Alabama and are well-positioned in a number of House districts as well. They are also poised to capture at least one new governorship (Arkansas), with several other states—such as Oregon and Arizona—within reach.

When Trump was first elected, few analysts would have predicted that one legacy of his presidency would be a significant rise in the representation of women within both major parties. But change in the American two-party system often follows this back-and-forth pattern. Trump's ascendance to the top of the GOP provoked a women-led opposition movement among Democrats, which in turn inspired a counter-response by Republican leaders who concluded that diversifying their own candidate ranks would prevent them from suffering a competitive disadvantage.

Both parties evolve as they react to developments on the other side as well as their own—just as Trump's nomination itself represented a passionate Republican backlash against the presidency of Barack Obama.

Of course, it's too soon to tell if the growth in female candidates will endure. But there's one good reason to expect that it may continue for at least one more election: The Supreme Court's June decision reversing *Roe v. Wade* was announced too late to affect the current field of candidates, since filing deadlines had already passed in nearly every state. But if Democratic anger at the Dobbs ruling fuels another upsurge of women running for office two years from now, Republicans could calculate that the best strategic response would be a further investment in recruiting their own slate of female nominees. When combined with Trump's potential return to the electoral arena, that's a formula for yet another Year of the Woman in 2024.

BIDEN

From Page 8

strategically, diplomatically, historically, constitutionally or economically. How to explain his stubborn adherence to defending "the beautiful island"? Actually, it's quite simple: Biden is a good politician, and sticking one's finger directly into the Chinese dragon's eye is clearly popular among Americans—damn the consequences. And Biden's term likely will have expired by the time any U.S.-China war occurs.






It's a pity that American politicians cannot seem to think beyond the next election.

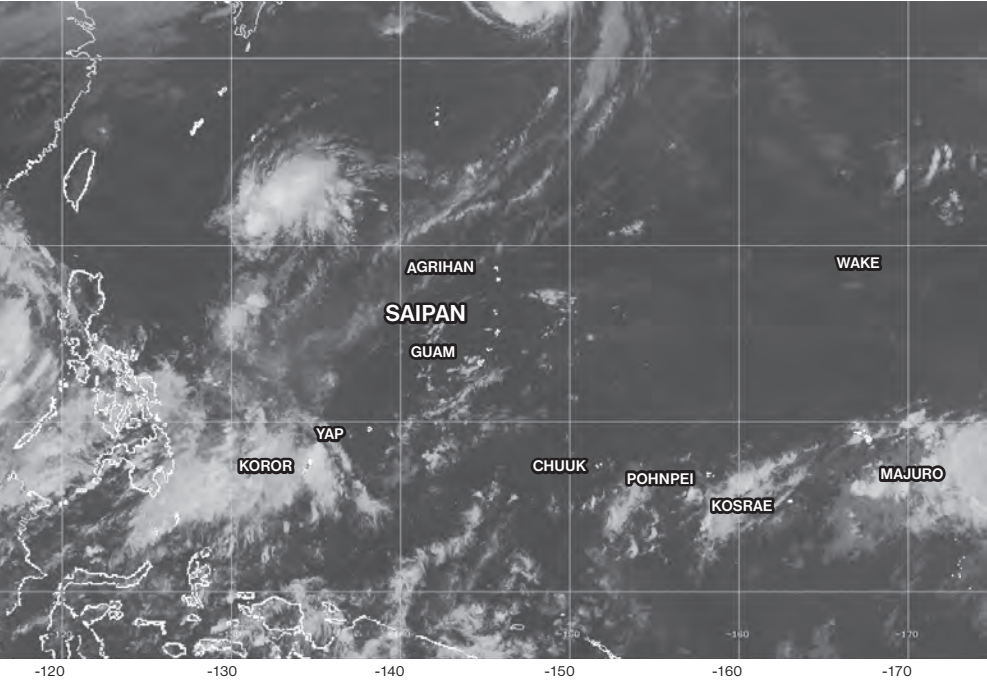
CLIMATE

From Page 8

whether it's societal upheaval or a slow-motion environmental catastrophe. If it takes an existential threat to their vacation homes and beachfront land to finally get them to join the fight to save the planet, that, at least, would be a positive aspect to the latest dismal climate news.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
									
Isolated showers. Mostly sunny		Isolated showers. Mostly sunny		A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy		A chance of showers. Partly sunny		A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy	
87°	76°	87°	76°	86°	78°	86°	78°	86°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:34 AM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

It was busy night as significant line of thunderstorms moved into the Guam waters. Several Marine Weather Statements were issued along with a Special Weather Statement and an Urban and Small Stream advisory. Andersen ASOS had a wind gust of 30 mph.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	88° / 76°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	81° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Showers	83° / 77°	
Kosrae	Cloudy	84° / 79°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:08 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:07 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:06 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:05 PM
Monday	6:06 AM	6:05 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	8:47 AM	8:32 PM	-
Friday	9:46 AM	9:20 PM	-
Saturday	10:47 AM	10:14 PM	-
Sunday	11:51 AM	11:13 PM	-
Monday	12:53 PM	-	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Showers	64° / 58°	
Beijing	Sunny	88° / 61°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°	
Honolulu	Sunny	86° / 76°	
London	Cloudy	62° / 45°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	91° / 67°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	61° / 49°	
Miami	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	
New York	Mostly Sunny	72° / 54°	
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	81° / 66°	
Paris	Showers	61° / 46°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	80° / 65°	
Rome	Thunderstorms	73° / 63°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	75° / 52°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	71° / 56°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	89° / 68°	
Tokyo	Showers	74° / 65°	
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	70° / 53°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
3:37 AM	Low Tide	0.14	
9:57 AM	High Tide	1.86	
3:51 PM	Low Tide	0.87	
9:19 PM	High Tide	1.88	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
UA156	6:30PM	7:15PM	6	UA112	4:40PM	5:30PM	6
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	6:00AM	8:00AM	Daily	PR110	10:00PM	4:00AM+1	Daily
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	5 via Palau
				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1,2,3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Palau, Guam
SAIPAN-NARITA				NARITA-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:00AM	9:30AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	2:00 AM+1	2, 4, 7
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:30PM	7:20PM	3, 4, 6, 7	7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6	7C3406	8:50AM	2:30PM	4
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	3, 4, 7	7C3406	8:50AM	2:50PM	3, 7
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6	OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
				TW307	9:00AM	2:30PM	4, 6, 7
				TW307	9:15AM	2:30PM	3
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:00PM	6:35PM	3, 7	BX622	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7
BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7	7C3452	9:00AM	2:00PM	3, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T*Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS

INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022

SAIPAN TO TINIAN			TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
7:00 A.M.	7:15 A.M.	(Except Sundays)	7:35 A.M.	7:50 A.M.	(Except Sundays)
9:50 A.M.	10:05 A.M.		10:25 A.M.	10:40 A.M.	
4:00 P.M.	4:15 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)	4:35 P.M.	4:50 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)
SAIPAN TO ROTA			ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
8:10 A.M.	8:40 A.M.		9:00 A.M.	9:30 A.M.	
1:45 P.M.	2:15 P.M.		2:35 P.M.	3:05 P.M.	
SAIPAN TO GUAM			GUAM TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
11:10 A.M.	12:00 P.M.		12:30 P.M.	1:20 P.M.	
5:15 P.M.	6:05 P.M.		6:40 P.M.	7:30 P.M.	

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun	3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

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Business

By ADRIANA MORGA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FAFSA season starts » What you need to know for financial aid



Graduates walk at a Harvard Commencement ceremony held for the classes of 2020 and 2021, Sunday, May 29, 2022, in Cambridge, Mass. AP

NEW YORK (AP)—The Free Application for Federal Student Aid filing season starts Oct. 1 for the 2023-2024 school year. If you plan to attend college next year, experts say you might want to fill out the FAFSA application as close to the opening date as possible.

Many institutions award financial aid on a first-come, first-serve basis. Karen McCarthy, vice president of public policy and federal relations from the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, recommends students get started.

“It is a good idea to do it on the earlier side,” said McCarthy. “Whenever (colleges) run out of money, then that’s all the funding they have for the year.”

Whether this is your first or fifth time filling out the application, here are some recommendations and background for completing this process and getting financial aid for your college career.

How does FAFSA work?

The FAFSA is a free government application that uses financial information from you and your family to determine whether you can get financial aid from the federal government to pay for college.

The FAFSA will send your financial information to the schools listed in the application that you are interested in attending—up to 10 schools. Each school that admits you will send you a financial aid package. The amount of financial aid you get depends on each institution.

This application is also used to determine eligibility for other federal student aid programs, like work-study and loans, as well as state and school aid. Sometimes, private, merit-based scholarships also require FAFSA information to determine if you qualify for their specific aid.

“Completing the FAFSA is probably the single most important thing you can do to get in line for scholarships, grants and other federal financial aid for college,” said Rick Castellanos, vice president of corporate communications at Sallie Mae.

Nitro College, a website that offers advice for college students, has a step-by-step guide listing all the questions in the FAFSA.

Who should fill out the FAFSA?

Anyone planning to attend college next year. Many decide not to apply thinking their family’s income is too high to be considered, but McCarthy recommends all students fill out the application.

“There’s no commitment, there’s no charge,” said McCarthy. “See what happens, you may be surprised. And if not, you have it on file in case you change your mind.”

Students and parents can use the federal student aid estimator to get an early approximation of their financial package.

How do I fill out FAFSA?

The first step is to create an FSA ID to help you log into your account electronically. If you are a dependent

student, your parents will also need to create an account.

Before starting your application, McCarthy recommends using your permanent personal email, one that is “available to you and that you check regularly.”

Here are the documents you will need to fill out your FAFSA application:

- Your Social Security Number
- Your driver’s license number, if you have one
- Your Alien Registration Number, if you are not a U.S. citizen
- Your federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned.
- Your bank statements and records of investments.
- Your records of untaxed income.

The application offers the option to get your federal tax return information from the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.

McCarthy also recommends students use their physical Social Security card when they fill out the application, not only to make sure they use the right number, but to double check their name.

“It’s much easier to avoid an issue in the first place,” said McCarthy. Some students who use their middle name in their daily lives make the mistake to list it as their first name on the application, she said. This causes issues with the application that will need to be resolved.

When should I fill out FAFSA for fall 2023-2024?

Meeting deadlines is important to avoid missing out on any possible financial aid you might receive. Aside from the federal deadline, students need to know if their state also has a deadline to be considered for financial aid.

The FAFSA application for the 2023-2024 year opens on Oct. 1 and must be submitted by June 30, 2024.

Each state has different deadlines for financial aid. For example, California has a March 2, 2023 deadline and Florida has a May 15, 2023 dead-

line for state financial aid programs.

You can check your state’s deadline here.

Do I have to renew my FAFSA?

The FAFSA needs to be filled out every year you plan to attend college. However, it usually becomes easier to navigate the process after you’ve done it once.

“I feel a lot faster every year,” said Haley Campbell Garcia, 28, who filled out the FAFSA for the first time in 2013 and has filled it out every year since, for her undergraduate and graduate degrees.

When you renew your application, some information is already pre-filled, but tax information and other items need to be updated.

What information do I need from my parents for FAFSA?

If you are filing as a dependent student, you’ll need to provide the financial information of at least one parent. If you list both parents, you need to know how they filed their tax return—jointly or separately—and their official marital status, said McCarthy.

“It seems like it should be obvious, but sometimes people don’t necessarily know whether their parents are separated or actually divorced,” said McCarthy. You can find the official marital status of your parents by checking their tax return.

Parents need to create their own FSA IDs. When your parents fill out the application, they can manually input their tax return information or use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.

Parents will need this information to fill out the FAFSA:

- Social Security number or Alien Registration number (if they are not U.S. citizens).
- Federal income tax returns, W-2s and other records of money earned.

If a student is applying for the 2023-2024 school year, parents need to use their 2021 federal tax return

information.

If you have questions about income information, you can call the federal student aid office at 1-800-433-3243.

What if my parents are non-citizens when I fill out FAFSA?

Your parents’ citizenship status does not affect your eligibility for student aid. The application doesn’t ask for your parents’ legal status in the country.

If your parent does not have a Social Security number, students should enter all zeros on the application. Also, parents without a Social Security number won’t need to create a FSA ID, but will need to sign the application by printing and mailing it to the financial aid office so the student’s application gets processed.

For more details on non-citizen parents you can visit studentaid.gov.

How can I speak with my parents about FAFSA when they’ve never done it before?

Whether you are a first generation college student or your parents are immigrants, having to explain FAFSA to them can be challenging.

The way Jessica Sansarran, a 25-year-old resident of Orlando, approached this issue was by reading FAFSA guides to her parents and communicating her frustrations with the process.

“I told them ‘you know, this is complicated for me too,’” said Sansarran, whose parents are from Guyana.

Anastasia Acerno, 21, approached this process similarly.

“I would just ask my parents for all their tax documentation, wait for them to find it, and then just ask them the questions myself, instead of having them go through the application,” said Acerno, who graduated from the University of Albany.

What if my financial circumstances have changed since 2021?

If your (or your family’s) financial situation has drastically changed, you

need to contact the specific institution that you are planning to attend. Each college handles special circumstances differently, said McCarthy.

When will I receive my FAFSA financial aid package?

FAFSA applications take three to five days to process, according to the student aid website. However, when you receive your financial aid package will depend on your institution. Usually, students get their financial aid package shortly after their admission offers.

What if I made a mistake in my FAFSA?

If you made a mistake filling out your application, you need to correct your FAFSA form. You can do this by logging in with your FSA ID, go to the “My FAFSA” page and select “make corrections.”

In some instances, if the changes cannot be done through the FAFSA portal, students will need to reach out to their institution’s financial aid office to make corrections.

What if my financial aid is not enough to pay for my college?

If the financial aid package from the college you plan to attend will not cover your college expenses, there are alternatives.

You can look into scholarships that might help lower the cost of attending college or student loans. There are two types of student loans: federal and private. Federal student loans usually offer lower interest rates than private loans.

Where can I find more help to fill out FAFSA?

A lot of information about FAFSA can be found on the studentaid.gov website, but if you have more specific questions, you can speak with the financial aid office of your desired institution.

From filling out basic questions to a more in-depth understanding of your financial aid package, your college or community college’s financial aid office can help.

In Yvette Solano’s case, she requested help from someone in the financial aid office that spoke Spanish.

“For me, it was about feeling comfortable asking questions and understanding the information,” said Solano, 25, who attended San Diego City College and graduated from Cal State, Los Angeles this summer. “You shouldn’t be ashamed of asking for help.”

McCarthy also recommends looking for college access organizations that provide free help completing the FAFSA.

Students or parents can also call, email or live chat with the Federal Student Aid Information Center.

The Associated Press receives support from Charles Schwab Foundation for educational and explanatory reporting to improve financial literacy. The independent foundation is separate from Charles Schwab and Co. Inc. The AP is solely responsible for its journalism.

Nation

Hurricane Ian strikes Cuba, Florida braces for winds, floods

HAVANA (AP)—Hurricane Ian tore into western Cuba as a major hurricane Tuesday, knocking out power to the entire country and leaving 11 million people without electricity, before churning on a collision course with Florida over warm Gulf waters amid expectations it would strengthen into a catastrophic Category 4 storm.

Ian made landfall in Cuba's Pinar del Rio province, where officials set up 55 shelters, evacuated 50,000 people, and took steps to protect crops in the nation's main tobacco-growing region. The U.S. National Hurricane Center said Cuba suffered "significant wind and storm surge impacts" when the hurricane struck with top sustained winds of 125 mph (205 kmh).

Ian was expected to get even stronger over the warm Gulf of Mexico, reaching top winds of 130 mph (209 kph) approaching the southwest coast of Florida, where 2.5 million people were ordered to evacuate.

Tropical storm-force winds were expected across the



AP
Visitors to the Southernmost Point buoy brave the high waves from Hurricane Ian crash for photos, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022, in Key West, Fla.

southern peninsula late Tuesday, reaching hurricane-force Wednesday—when the eye was predicted to make landfall. With tropical storm-force winds extending 140 miles

(225 kilometers) from Ian's center, damage was expected across a wide area of Florida.

It was not yet clear precisely where Ian would crash ashore. Its exact track could determine

how severe the storm surge is for Tampa Bay, said University of Miami hurricane researcher Brian McNoldy. Landfall south of the bay could make the impact "much

less bad," McNoldy said.

Gil Gonzalez boarded up his windows Tuesday and had sandbags ready to protect his Tampa home. He and his wife had stocked up on bottled water and packed flashlights, battery packs for their cellphones and a camp stove before evacuating.

"All the prized possessions,

we've put them upstairs in a friend's house and nearby, and we've got the car loaded," Gonzalez said on his way out.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis urged people to prepare for extended power outages, and to get out of the storm's potential path.

"It is a big storm, it is going to kick up a lot of water as it comes in," DeSantis told a news conference in Sarasota, a coastal city of 57,000 that could be hit. "And you're going to end up with really significant storm surge and you're going to end up with really significant flood events. And this is the kind of storm surge that is life threatening."

He said about 30,000 utility workers have already been positioned around the state but it might take days before they can safely reach some of the downed power lines.

"This thing's the real deal," DeSantis said. "It is a major, major storm."

DeSantis said nearly 100 shelters had been opened by Tuesday afternoon, with more expected. He said most buildings in Florida are strong enough to withstand wind, but the 2.5 million people who have been told to evacuate face the greatest danger from flooding.

Lawsuit says woman gave birth alone on Maryland jail floor

By COLLEEN SLEVIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A woman who said she was left to give birth to her baby alone on the dirty, concrete floor of her jail cell in Maryland filed a federal lawsuit Tuesday alleging that jail nurses ignored her screams and pleas for help for six hours.

Jazmin Valentine alleges some nurses working for the jail's contracted medical

provider, Pennsylvania-based PrimeCare Medical, Inc., said she was withdrawing from drugs, not in labor, and some jail staffers and medical staff laughed at her, saying she was just trying to get out of her cell late at night in July 2021 at the Washington County jail in Hagerstown.

Valentine claims she punched the walls of her solitary confinement cell, which did not have blankets or sheets, during her most pain-

ful contractions and removed what she believed was her baby's amniotic sac and slid it under her cell door to prove she was about to have a baby.

A fellow inmate, hearing Valentine's pleas, called Valentine's boyfriend, who called the jail pleading with staffers to help her, the lawsuit said.

The nurses also ignored a concern raised by a jail deputy about Valentine but he did not contact any superiors, the law-

suit said. He discovered Valentine holding the baby girl in her cell about 15 minutes after she was born just after midnight on July 4, 2021 and an ambulance was called to take them to the hospital, according to the lawsuit.

Because of the unsanitary conditions in the cell, the baby developed a type of staph bacteria infection that is resistant to many antibiotics, the lawsuit said.

California murder suspect, teen daughter are killed in shootout

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An abducted 15-year-old girl and her father—a fugitive wanted in the death of the teen's mother—were both killed amid a shootout with law enforcement Tuesday on a highway in California's high desert, authorities said.

San Bernardino County Sheriff Shannon Dicus did not specify whether Savannah Graziano was shot by the responding deputies or her father. Anthony John Graziano, 45, had allegedly killed his estranged wife the day before and abducted their daughter.

Investigators had issued an Amber Alert after Graziano fled. He was described as armed and dangerous.

A 911 caller reported seeing the suspect's Nissan Frontier around Barstow on Tuesday, according the sheriff's department. Deputies located the pickup truck and chased it on the highway for around 45 miles (70 kilometers).

Throughout the chase, Graziano—and possibly his daughter as well—was "constantly shooting back at the deputies" through the truck's rear window, Dicus said.

The shooter put several

rounds through a patrol car's windshield and later disabled a second pursuing vehicle, the sheriff said.

The pickup truck became disabled on the shoulder of a highway in the city of Hesperia, and the firefight ensued.

Dicus said the girl was wearing tactical gear as she exited a truck's passenger side and ran toward the sheriff's deputies. She fell to the ground amid the gunfire. The deputies did not initially realize it was the girl who was running toward them, Dicus said, because she was wearing a helmet and a military-style vest that can hold armored plates.

She was taken to a hospital, where she was pronounced dead shortly before noon.

Her father was found in the driver's seat and pronounced dead at the scene. A rifle was found inside the car.

One deputy was injured by shrapnel during the firefight, Dicus said.

Graziano allegedly killed Tracy Martinez, 45, on Monday morning in a domestic violence event in the city of Fontana, near San Bernardino, according to Fontana police Sgt. Chris Surgent.

ACROSS THE NATION

Biden keeps US target for refugee admissions at 125,000

SAN DIEGO (AP)—President Joe Biden on Tuesday kept the nation's cap on refugee admissions at 125,000 for the 2023 budget year, despite pressure from advocates to raise it even higher to meet the need after falling far short of that target this year. Refugees advocates have been pushing the Biden administration to do more to restore the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. The more than four-decade-old program suffered deep cuts under the Trump administration, which slashed admissions to a record low of 15,000. After taking office, Biden quadrupled the number of refugee admissions permitted for the remaining

months of the 2021 budget year. He then set the target at 125,000 for the 2022 budget year, which ends Sept. 30. But so far fewer than 20,000 refugees have been admitted.

Inmate serving life for fatal Vegas bombing escapes prison

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Authorities were searching Tuesday for a 42-year-old convicted bombmaker who escaped from a Nevada prison where he was serving a life sentence for a deadly 2007 explosion outside a Las Vegas Strip resort. Gov. Steve Sisolak ordered an investigation into the incident after he said late Tuesday his office learned the escapee had been missing from the medium-security prison since early in the weekend. "This is

unacceptable," Sisolak said in a statement. Officials didn't realize until Tuesday morning Porfirio Duarte-Herrera was missing during a head count at Southern Desert Correctional Center near Las Vegas. A state Department of Corrections statement said search teams were looking for him.

Teen killed, 4 wounded in shooting after football scrimmage

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—A 14-year-old youth was killed and four other students wounded in a shooting near a northwest Philadelphia high school athletic field after a football scrimmage, authorities said. Police said players were walking off the field behind Roxborough High School after a scrimmage in-

volving three schools when at least two people opened fire shortly after 4:30 p.m. Tuesday before fleeing on foot. Police said a 14-year-old shot in the chest was pronounced dead shortly after 5 p.m. Wednesday at Einstein Medical Center. A 17-year-old shot in the arm and leg and a 14-year-old shot in the thigh were listed in stable condition. No information was immediately available about a fourth student taken to a hospital; another student grazed by a bullet was treated at the scene. Deputy Police Commissioner John Stanford told reporters that the players were walking away from a scrimmage involving Roxborough High School, Northeast High School and Boys Latin Charter School that had just concluded when the gunfire began.

Asia

ADB to devote \$14B to help Asia-Pacific ease food crisis

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Asian Development Bank said Tuesday it will devote at least \$14 billion through 2025 to help ease a worsening food crisis in the Asia-Pacific.

The development lender said it plans a comprehensive program of support to help the 1.1 billion people in the region who lack healthy diets due to poverty and soaring food prices.

The Manila, Philippines-based ADB made the announcement during its annual meeting.

“This is a timely and urgently needed response to a crisis that is leaving too many poor families in Asia hungry and in deeper poverty,” ADB President Masatsugu Asakawa said.

The plan calls for improving long-term food security by strengthening farming and food supplies to cope with climate change and loss of biodiversity. The ADB said the funds will go to both existing and new projects spanning farming, food

production and distribution, water resources management and social supports.

Asakawa said that in the short-term, support will be targeted at and designed to help the most vulnerable, particularly women.

In opening the ADB meeting, Asakawa noted that the economic outlook has worsened with the Russian invasion of Ukraine, soaring prices for many commodities and a harsher economic environment thanks to rising interest rates and weakening currencies for many developing economies.

In a recent update, the bank downgraded its forecast for growth in the region to 4.3% from an earlier estimate of 5.2%. Next year’s outlook is for 4.9% annual growth.

Food insecurity threatens to undo decades of progress and has worsened with the strife in Ukraine, a key supplier of grain, oil and fertilizer to many countries in the region.

The situation will worsen as climate change amplifies extreme weather, hurting harvests and triggering migration, Asakawa noted.

Last week, the U.N. food chief warned the world is facing “a perfect storm on top of a perfect storm,” urging donors, particularly Gulf nations and billionaires, to give a few days of profits to tackle a fertilizer supply crisis to prevent widespread food shortages next year.

In just one example, in Pakistan, massive floods this summer have wiped out large swaths of crops, adding to worries over food shortages.

Even before the floods, some 38 million Pakistanis, more than 16% of the population, were living in moderate or severe food insecurity, uncertain they could obtain food or at times going without eating, according to the World Health Organization. Nearly 18% of children were acutely malnourished.

Abe’s militaristic funeral captures Japan’s tense mood

TOKYO (AP)—The leadup to former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s controversial state funeral could seem like a never-ending exchange of heated words—both for and against. But it was the images of Tuesday’s ceremony that most clearly told the story of a nation still deeply divided over the legacy of perhaps the most polarizing leader in its modern history.

Sections of Tokyo, still on edge after Abe’s assassination in July, looked more like a police state than the capital of one of the most stable nations

in the world. Twenty thousand police officers and more than 1,000 soldiers crammed the neighborhoods around the massive funeral hall, as thousands of protesters took to the streets.

If Japan is sometimes seen from abroad as a monolith of sorts, a largely uniform middleclass haven of social harmony, Abe’s funeral laid bare some of the messy reality of a divided nation. It’s a place where the shadow of World War II—a subject Abe spent much of his career addressing—can still loom as large

as the economic and security worries that drive modern elections.

For many of the thousands of public mourners who stood in long lines to take turns bowing and laying small bouquets of flowers beneath photos of Abe in a park near the official ceremonies, the former leader spearheaded a heroic, still unfinished quest to make Japan a “normal country.” He encouraged a sense of national pride in Japan’s enormous international contributions instead of focusing on a lingering shame over war-era brutality.

UN official warns of conflict, more poverty in Afghanistan

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—A senior U.N. official warned Tuesday of a possible internal conflict and worsening poverty in Afghanistan if the Taliban don’t respond quickly to the needs of all elements of society, saying their crack-down on the rights of girls and women signals indifference to over 50% of Afghanistan’s population and a willingness to risk international isolation.

Markus Potzel, the U.N. deputy representative for Afghanistan, told the Security Council some of the Taliban’s “claimed and acknowledged achievements” are also eroding.

He pointed to a steady rise in armed clashes, criminal activity and high profile terrorist attacks especially by the

Islamic State extremist group which demonstrated in recent months that it can carry out assassinations of figures close to the Taliban, attack foreign embassies, fire rockets against Afghanistan’s neighbors -- and maintain their longstanding campaign against Shia Muslims and ethnic minorities.

Potzel said the economic situation also “remains tenuous,” with food security worsening and winter approaching.

The U.N. humanitarian appeal for \$4.4 billion has only received \$1.9 billion which is “alarming,” he said, urging donors to immediately provide \$614 million to support winter preparations and an additional \$154 million to preposition essential supplies before places

get cut off by winter weather.

U.N. humanitarian chief Martin Griffiths said in late August that more than half the Afghan population -- some 24 million people -- need assistance and close to 19 million are facing acute levels of food insecurity. And “we worry” that the figures will soon become worse because winter weather will send already high fuel and food prices skyrocketing, he said.

While there have been some positive developments in Afghanistan in recent months, Potzel said, they have been too few, too slow, “and are outweighed by the negatives,” in particular, the ongoing ban on secondary education for girls -- unique in the world -- and growing restrictions on women’s rights.”

World

Russia announces vote, paves way to annex part of Ukraine



A firefighter works after a Russian attack that heavily damaged a building in Sloviansk, Ukraine, Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022. AP

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—The Kremlin paved the way Tuesday to annex more of Ukraine and escalate the war by claiming that residents of a large swath overwhelmingly supported joining with Russia in stage-managed referendums the U.S. and its Western allies have dismissed as illegitimate.

Pro-Moscow officials said all four occupied regions of Ukraine voted to join Russia. According to Russian-installed election officials, 93% of the ballots cast in the Zaporizhzhia region support-

ed annexation, as did 87% in the Kherson region, 98% in the Luhansk region and 99% in Donetsk. Possibly explaining the lower favorable vote in Kherson is that Russian authorities there have faced a strong Ukrainian underground resistance movement whose members have killed Moscow-appointed officials and threatened those who considered voting.

In a remark that appeared to rule out negotiations, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy told the U.N. Security Council by video from

Kyiv that Russia’s attempts to annex Ukrainian territory will mean “there is nothing to talk about with this president of Russia.”

He added that “any annexation in the modern world is a crime, a crime against all states that consider the inviolability of border to be vital for themselves.”

The preordained outcome sets the stage for a dangerous new phase in Russia’s seven-month war, with the Kremlin threatening to throw more troops into the battle and potentially use nuclear weapons.

WORLD BRIEFS

Canada sees suspected carbon monoxide cases in wake of Fiona

CHARLOTTETOWN, Prince Edward Island (AP)—A Canadian hospital said Tuesday it is treating several patients for suspected carbon monoxide poisoning as many people in the Atlantic area hit post-tropical storm Fiona are using generators for electricity. More than 180,000 homes and businesses were still without electricity by late Tuesday afternoon—more than 122,000 of them in Nova Scotia province and about 61,000 in Prince Edward Island province. The Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Charlottetown, on Prince Edward Island, declared a Code Orange to activate protocols to care for more emergency patients. The hospital asked people to come to its emergency department only for urgent or critical health problems.

Blasts precede Baltic pipeline leaks, sabotage seen likely

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—Denmark believes “deliberate actions” caused big leaks in two natural gas pipelines running under the Baltic Sea from Russia to Germany, and seismologists said powerful explosions preceded the leaks. European leaders and experts pointed to possible sabotage amid the energy standoff with Russia provoked by the war in

Ukraine. Although filled with gas, neither pipeline is currently supplying it to Europe. “It is the authorities’ clear assessment that these are deliberate actions — not accidents,” Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen said Tuesday. But she added “there is no information indicating who could be behind it.” Frederiksen rejected the suggestion that the incident was an attack on Denmark, saying the leaks occurred in international waters.

Cuba without electricity after hurricane hammers power grid

HAVANA (AP)—Hurricane Ian knocked out power across all of Cuba and devastated some of the country’s most important tobacco farms when it slammed into the island’s western tip as a major hurricane Tuesday. Cuba’s Electric Union said in a statement that work was underway to gradually restore service to the country’s 11 million people during the night. Power was initially knocked out to about 1 million people in Cuba’s western provinces, but later the entire grid collapsed. Ian hit a Cuba that has been struggling with an economic crisis and has faced frequent power outages in recent months. It made landfall as a Category 3 storm on the island’s western end, devastating Pinar del Rio province, where much of the tobacco used for Cuba’s iconic cigars is grown.

Environment

Afraid and anxious, young protesters demand climate action

By SETH BORENSTEIN and
FRANK JORDANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—Frustrated, anxious but also a tad hopeful, young activists staged a coordinated “global climate strike” Friday to highlight the effects of global warming and demand more aid for poor countries hit by wild weather.

In New York, as leaders of developing disaster-struck nations pleaded their cases at the United Nations, more than a thousand protesters, many of them skipping school, marched through the streets to tell their leaders they were sick of inaction on climate.

“The oceans are rising and so are we,” they chanted. Protesters also took to the streets in Jakarta, Tokyo, Rome, Berlin and Montreal carrying banners and posters with slogans such as, “It’s not too late.”

“It’s one thing to worry about the future, and it’s another to get out there and do something about it,” said 16-year-old Lucia Dec-Prat at the protest in New York. “I honestly feel that the adults aren’t listening.”

Dinah Landsman, 17, said every day she asks herself about what kind of future she’ll have as she grows up because of climate change. Her generation has to act, she said.

“No one else is going to do it,” said Landsman, also in New York. “It’s us who have



the most at stake.”

The protests follow warnings from scientists that countries aren’t doing enough to meet the 2015 Paris climate accord’s top-line target of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit) this century compared to preindustrial times.

Michael Taft, a 27-year-old graduate student in New York, said “a lot of kids here are scared about what the next 20 years are going to look like for them.”

But Taft said he still has hope. He looks around at those listening to the speakers and said they aren’t like past generations. They aren’t looking to become finance majors and make lots of money.

“They’re all here because they’re motivated to make change,” Taft said. “And probably one of the people here or in another climate rally in a different country is going to be the person that has a massive role in change and fixing this.”

The demonstrations were organized by the Fridays for Future movement that took its cue from activist Greta Thunberg, who began protesting alone outside the Swedish parliament in 2018.

“We’re striking all over the world because the governments in charge are still doing too little for climate justice,” said Darya Sotoodeh, a spokesperson for the group’s chapter in Germany.

“People all over the world

are suffering from this crisis, and it’s going to get worse if we don’t act on time,” she said.

Police said some 20,000 people attended the rally in Berlin, which featured calls for the German government to establish a 100-billion-euro fund for tackling climate change.

In Rome, some 5,000 young people turned out for a march that ended near the Colosseum.

One placard read: “The climate is changing. Why aren’t we?” Students highlighted among their priorities the need to rethink Italy’s transport policies. The country’s ratio of cars to inhabitant is one of the highest in Europe.

In Italy’s election campaign, which wraps up on Friday evening ahead of the Sept. 25 vote for Parliament, climate change policies didn’t figure heavily at candidates’ rallies.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told world leaders this week that the fossil fuel industry, which is responsible for a large share of planet-warming gases, is “feasting on hundreds of billions of dollars in subsidies and windfall profits while household budgets shrink and our planet burns.”

Guterres urged rich countries to tax the profits of energy companies and redirect the funds to both “countries suffering loss and damage caused by the climate crisis” and those struggling with the rising cost of living.

Demands for poor nations to receive greater financial help to cope with global warming, including the destruction already wrought by deadly weather events such as the floods in Pakistan, have grown louder in the run-up to this year’s U.N. climate summit.

Climate change is making people angrier online

By LAURA MILLAN LOMBRANA
BLOOMBERG NEWS

Climate change is making us angrier online. A lot angrier.

Hateful comments spike on social media when temperatures rise above 30 degrees Celsius (86 Fahrenheit), researchers at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research have found.

“It’s an indicator of how well people can adapt to high temperatures,” said Annika Stechemesser, lead author of the study published in *The Lancet Planetary Health* earlier this month. “If temperatures go too hot or too cold, we found that there’s an increase in online hate speech, no matter the socioeconomic differences, religion or political beliefs.”

Global warming of about 1.1°C on average since pre-industrial times has unleashed all sorts of extreme weather events across the world. This summer, drought and a string of heat waves hit Europe,

China and the U.S. For humans, heat is associated with psychiatric hospitalizations, increased rates of suicide and more domestic violence, according to research.

And aggressive behavior online has been linked to violence offline too. Incensed posts have led to more violence toward minorities, including mass shootings, lynchings and ethnic cleansing, according to the Council on Foreign Relations, a New York-based think tank.

Stechemesser and other researchers analyzed a sample of 4 billion tweets between 2014 and 2020 from users based in the U.S. They used artificial intelligence to identify about 75 million hate messages in English, using the United Nations’ definition of online hate, which includes racial discrimination, misogyny and homophobia. They then analyzed how the number of tweets changed when local temperatures increased or decreased.

The researchers found that online hate speech increased as daily maximum temperatures rose above 21°C (70°F)—a “feel good” point. Hate messages went up as much as 22% on hot days, compared with the average online hate during times of mild weather.

Across all climate zones and socioeconomic groups in the U.S., online tensions intensified even more significantly when temperatures exceeded 30°C. Researchers observed that online hate speech increased by as much as 24%—from the feel good point—when temperatures reached 42°C to 45°C in U.S. regions with hot and dry climates such as parts of Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and California. Last year, a study by the same researchers focusing on Europe reached similar conclusions.

“When discussing climate change, it’s a point to remember that we feel the effects everywhere, not just in places

with big disasters,” Stechemesser said. “There are places where the social consequences of heat have been not discussed very thoroughly, especially around how we can live together as a society and deal with our well-being in the future.”

Researchers analyzed the tweets as a whole and did not look into specific incidents. That means there’s no way to know if the weather made online tensions worse following the murder of George Floyd in May 2020, for instance, or in the lead up to the attack on the U.S. Capitol in January 2021. Still, some conclusions can be reached ahead of the US midterms on Nov. 8.

“Our results show that if September is particularly hot, we can expect to see more hate on Twitter,” said Stechemesser. “But the research doesn’t really show what kind of hate it is or on what topics—we don’t know yet whether the hate we observe is tied to political issues.”

The colors of fall

How leaves work

Leaves use carbohydrates (sugars) to continually produce chlorophyll, which gives the leaves their green color; the chemical absorbs the blue and orange parts of sunlight and converts them into energy for the tree.

Daylight spectrum



Signal for leaves to change correlates to the length of daily sunlight, not just frost or temperature; with fading daylight, the layer of cells around the leaf stem start to harden, cutting off chlorophyll; other colors that were present in the leaf, but blocked by the green, become visible with the lack of chlorophyll.

Yellows and oranges

These pigments are made by xanthophylls and carotenoids (the same as in carrots) and absorb the green light the chlorophyll misses.

Reds and purples

Some leaves turn red from anthocyanins, a chemical manufactured from the sugars trapped in the leaf.

Browns

When all the pigment breaks down, only the brown tannins remain.

Source: U.S. National Arboretum, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Life & Style

Pop singer Shakira to face trial over tax fraud in Spain

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—A Spanish judge on Tuesday approved a trial for Colombian pop singer Shakira on charges of tax fraud.

Spanish prosecutors accused the entertainer in 2018 of failing to pay 14.5 million euros (\$13.9 million) in taxes on income earned between 2012 and 2014. Prosecutors are seeking an eight-year prison sentence and a hefty fine if she is found guilty of tax evasion.

Shakira, 45, has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing and rejected a deal with authorities to avoid going to trial. Her public relations firm has said that she has already paid all that she owed and an additional 3 million euros (\$2.8 million) in interest.

The court based in the town of Esplugues de Llo-



Shakira

bregat near Barcelona said that Shakira will face six counts of tax fraud. The date for the trial has yet to be set.

The case hinges on where Shakira lived during 2012-14. Prosecutors in Barcelona have alleged the Grammy winner spent more than half of

that period in Spain and should have paid taxes in the country, even though her official residence was in the Bahamas.

Shakira, whose full name is Shakira Isabel Mebarak Ripoll, has been linked to Spain since she started dating soccer player Gerard Pique. The couple, who have two children, used to live together in Barcelona but recently ended their 11-year relationship.

Spain has cracked down on

soccer stars like Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo over the past decade for not paying their full due in taxes. They were found guilty of evasion but both

avoided prison time thanks to a provision that allows a judge to waive sentences under two years in length for first-time offenders.

Judge green lights defamation lawsuit against Fox, Lou Dobbs

NEW YORK (AP)—A defamation lawsuit against Fox Corp., Fox News Network and Lou Dobbs can proceed toward trial, a judge ruled Monday after concluding that a Venezuelan businessman had made sufficient claims of being unfairly accused of trying to corrupt the 2020 U.S. presidential election to be permitted to gather more evidence.

The lawsuit filed last year alleged that businessman Maged Khalil was defamed by Dobbs on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” and in tweets.

It said the former Fox personality joined with attorney Sidney Powell on a December 2020 show to claim that Khalil and three others designed and

developed programs and machines to corrupt the presidential election.

Lawyers for Fox and Dobbs had tried to convince U.S. District Judge Louis L. Stanton in Manhattan to toss out the lawsuit before evidence such as depositions and emails could be reviewed, but the judge said Khalil had sufficiently claimed that his reputation was harmed by false accusations.

The judge said Khalil may be able to argue to a jury that actual malice occurred because the defendants “repeatedly maintained their claims about Khalil long after Powell’s election fraud theories were challenged.”

He wrote that numerous re-

Jill Biden hosts White House reading for student poets

WASHINGTON (AP)—Jill Biden on Tuesday hosted a reading by this year’s group of National Student Poets, allowing each one to read their winning work in a White House room set up to mimic a coffee house.

The first lady said she herself has turned to poetry to find joy in other people’s words at times, including when she’d lie awake consumed by worry or when she felt lost.

“In the words of others, I found the contours of my own joy,” she said. “I found a place to lay down my fears. I found a compass that would lead me

through the darkest of woods. And on the page, tangled in hurried lines, in smudges of ink, I found myself.”

“So it’s truly special to be able to welcome the 2022 National Student Poets,” she said as the five high school poets sat behind her on high stools.

In the State Dining Room, books and knickknacks were stacked on the fireplace mantle beneath a portrait of Abraham Lincoln. A sandwich board advertised a poetry reading at 4:30 p.m. Votive candles flickered on round tables where some 60 guests had taken seats.

Ada Limón, the 24th poet laureate of the United States, called each student up to read their winning work. Biden congratulated the students after the reading and hugged each one.

“We’re not just celebrating poetry,” Limón said. “We’re celebrating the future of poetry.”

The 2022 National Student Poets, and their schools, are:

—Vidhatrie Keetha, Horace Mann School, Bronx, New York.

—Emily Igwiki, University School of Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

—Winslow Hastie Jr., Charleston County School of

King Charles III’s new monogram revealed at end of mourning

LONDON (AP)—King Charles III’s new monogram was revealed Tuesday as the official period of mourning for his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, came to a close.

The emblem, known as the king’s cypher, will appear on government buildings, state documents and some post boxes in the coming months and years.

It features the initial C intertwined with the letter R for Rex, the Latin word for king. The Roman numeral III sits in the center of the R and a crown hovers above the letters.

The symbol was selected from a series of designs prepared by the College of Arms, a 500-year-old body that oversees the issuance of new coats of arms and other

aspects of heraldry in England. A Scottish version of the cypher features the Scottish Crown, and was approved by Lord Lyon King of Arms, who has similar responsibilities in Scotland.

Also Tuesday, the Bank of England said it would reveal images of new banknotes featuring a portrait of the king by the end of this year.

the Arts, North Charleston, South Carolina.

—Jesse Begay, New Mexico School for the Arts, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

—Diane Sun, Interlake High School Bellevue, Washington.

Biden also recognized this year’s 10th anniversary of the National Student Poets Program, which was created in 2012 to highlight the role of writing and the arts in academic and personal success for communities across the country, the White House said.

James Patterson donates to PEN America, Howard University

NEW YORK (AP)—Howard University, PEN America and Scholastic Book Clubs are among the latest recipients of donations from James Patterson, the bestselling author who has given over \$100 million to literary and literacy programs.



Patterson

On Tuesday, Patterson announced \$5.3 million in cash awards. They include \$2 million to PEN to support the organiza-

tion’s fight for free expression worldwide; \$2 million to Scholastic for the classroom project “The United States of Readers” and \$1.3 million total to Howard University for 12 James Patterson Writer Education Scholarships, worth \$10,000

each for the current academic year, and to the Iowa Writers’ Workshop for 14 fellowships, given to 11 fiction writers and

three poets.

Over the years, Patterson has also given millions of dollars to teachers, school libraries and independent bookstores.

“I was brought up to give back—so my mother and grandmother should get the praise here,” Patterson said in a statement. “I’ve dedicated my career to getting as many people to love books as possible. I advocate for literacy and schools, fund teacher scholarships, and support other writers, booksellers, and librarians in any way that I can.”

Single, professional woman rebuked for personal choice

DEAR ABBY: I am almost 30, not married, no kids. I am a workaholic. I love my nieces and nephews to death, and being an aunt is one of my favorite things ever. My issue is: I don’t want to have kids.

I started dating again a few months back, and it seems like any man I go on a date with thinks he can change my mind about kids. I have personal medical reasons for not wanting to give birth. Of course, if I do meet a man who has kids, that would be perfect! I’d be a great mom.

So why is it I get called dirty names because I choose not to have kids? Everyone says I’ll change my mind once I meet the right guy, but this isn’t a negotiable issue. If we want to adopt or consider other options for kids, I am more than willing. There are children who need a home more than I need to bring one into this world just to pass on my DNA. Please help me understand what I am missing.

UNWAVERING IN IDAHO

DEAR UNWAVERING: Not every woman wants to bear children. That is a fact. For someone to call you “dirty names” because of how you feel is judgmental and presumptuous. Motherhood should be—and is—a personal choice, and birth control allows us the freedom to exercise that choice as we see fit.

It’s possible you may be dating in the wrong age group. If you concentrate on older men who most likely already have children, I’m betting you will receive less flak and have a better outcome. There are also dating apps for couples who want to remain child-free or for those who are

already parents. Check them out.

♦♦♦♦

DEAR ABBY: My girlfriend has a penchant for long stories, many times on the phone, which are trivial. This morning, she called and proceeded to describe, at length, a nightmare she’d had last night. I try -- I really do -- to listen, but I usually wind up thinking, what’s the point of having a looong conversation about a nightmare? Because I got bored, I started using the computer to search for some meal coupons. When I found them, I interrupted her monologue, which led to a back-and-forth accusatory interchange, “I interrupt you, you interrupt me,” etc., etc., etc.

I have always been easily bored with long-winded conversations about minor issues or non-issues. People sometimes criticize me because it’s obvious I’m not paying attention. How do I fix this so people don’t get offended when they persist with these pointless stories? Today I had to hang up as our “discussion” was escalating.

EASILY BORED IN LAS VEGAS

DEAR EASILY BORED: If this happens regularly, the problem may be that you have a short attention span. However, if that’s not the case, it’s time you realized that relationships are based on people taking the time to communicate with each other. This includes hearing and listening as well as talking. If you value your relationship with your girlfriend, try to make more of an effort. And help her to compromise by pointing out how she can edit some of her longer monologues.

♦♦♦♦

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR ABBY: This may seem kind of morbid, but I want to know if it I should write a letter to my daughter and son to be read after my death to let them know how very proud I am to have been their mother. Is this an OK thing to do?

GRATEFUL MOM IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR GRATEFUL MOM: I see nothing wrong with it. However, an even better thing to do would be to convey that message to your son and daughter **OFTEN** while you are still among the living.

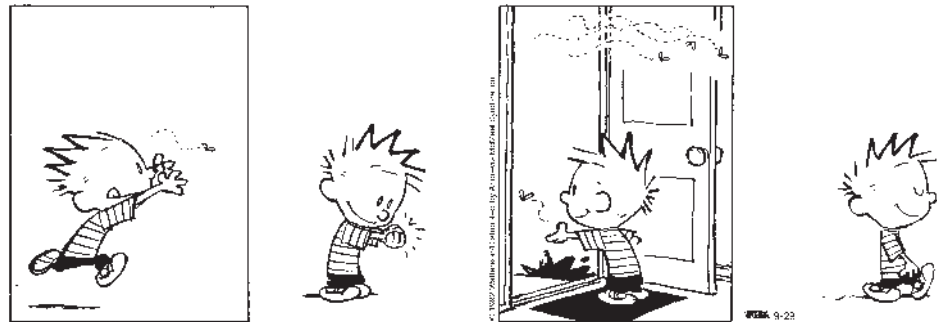
♦♦♦♦

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



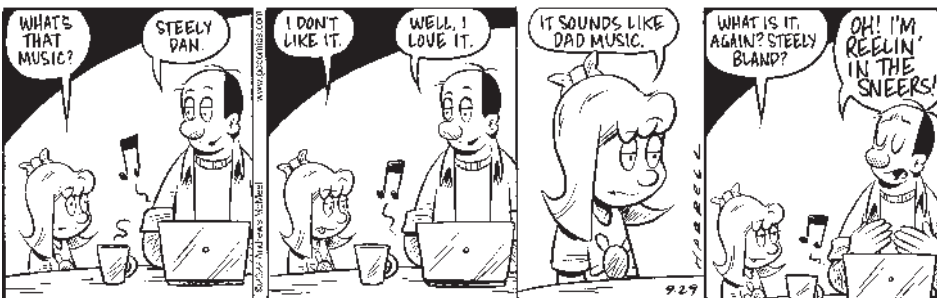
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Ella's style
5 Haydn nickname
9 Oklahoma city
12 "Hell — no fury ..."
13 Pitcher egg
14 Goose
15 Long-snouted mammals
17 "Mazel —!"
18 Actress Ryder
19 Puccini work
21 ICU worker
22 Tablecloth material
24 Broadway production
27 Silent
28 Pesky insect
31 Poetic dusk
32 Khan title
33 "Hail, Caesar!"
34 Evening, in an ad
36 Rep.'s rival

DOWN

37 Blue shade
38 "It's nobody business"
40 Yes, to Juan
41 Least desirable
43 Iraqi currency
47 "Entourage" character
48 South Pole region
51 Corp. boss
52 Leeway
53 Band-leader
54 Lith., once
55 Art Deco master

DOWN

1 "Candida" playwright
2 Kid's plea
3 Envelope abbr.
4 Supposition
5 Anti-fur org.
6 Shock partner
7 For each
8 Incendiary crime
9 Feelers
10 Couturier
11 Thomas — Edison
16 Raggedy doll
20 Identify
22 Olympic sleds

23 Mosque leader
24 Stock holder
25 Maui souvenir
26 Toward the front
27 Constructed
29 Director
30 Aviv preceder
35 Golf's Ernie
37 Colors lightly
39 Intent look
40 — Lancelot
41 Some WWII vets
42 Un-refined metals
43 Title for Judi Dench
44 Bickering
45 Bar mitzvah, e.g.
46 Garbage barge
49 Neither here — there
50 Pre-schooler

Solution time: 24 mins.

E	T	A	L	A	D	V	M	B	A	S
B	O	R	A	S	I	A	O	R	G	A
B	R	I	T	C	H	E	S	D	I	N
S	N	A	T	C	H	E	S	T	H	E
E	E	E	S	E	R	R	E	S		
C	O	B	D	A	Y	S	N	A	P	S
F	A	R	D	R	E	B	A	N	O	N
A	R	I	E	L	L	I	U	E	E	L
O	B	I	T	C	R	B				
F	A	C	A	D	E	P	L	A	S	M
O	C	H	S	B	H	I	S	I	L	E
A	T	E	L	O	I	C	O	A	T	S
M	I	S	S	W	E	S	R	V	A	N

Yesterday's answer 9-29

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kevin Durant, 34; Zibby Allen, 42; Bryant Gumbel, 74; Jerry Lee Lewis, 87.

Happy Birthday: Money matters are a highlight this year. Invest in yourself, your surroundings and your health, not in joint ventures or shared expenses. You need freedom regarding cash distribution and how to achieve the most physically, mentally and financially. Keep consumption down and your overhead manageable. Concentrate on what's attainable and walk away from what's impossible. Your numbers are 6, 17, 24, 32, 35, 41, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Pick away at a creative idea until you turn it into something tangible. Keep what you are working toward a secret, and you will save yourself from being lectured by someone who lacks your vision. Start a new fitness-and-health routine. ☀☀

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Speak confidently and share what you know; the response will help you get ahead. Do whatever it takes to boost your reputation, and you'll gain access to the perfect platform to share concerns, offer solutions and take control. ☀☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take time to get to know your peers, neighbors or community members, and the interactions will lead to opportunities. Emphasize what interests you, and you'll attract people with connections to something you want to pursue. Romance is in the stars. ☀☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Develop a talent or skill that is forward-thinking and fitting for this moment. Be abrupt if that's what it takes to get others on board. A change will

lift you momentarily, but it will be short-lived if you overspend. ☀☀☀☀

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Listen carefully, say little and look for an alternative to what someone suggests. Refuse to let anyone play with your emotions or make you feel guilty. Say no to anyone pressuring you to get involved before you are ready. ☀☀

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Express yourself passionately, and you'll make progress. What you contribute will change how others perceive you. Take a different route if it will help you gain insight into something that can lead to higher income. Share your feelings and intentions. ☀☀☀☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Consider your attributes, skills and schedule, and adjust your lifestyle and cash management to fit into your plans. It's up to you to turn your ideas into something tangible, so don't wait for someone to do the work for you. ☀☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Stick to what you know and do best. Don't give anyone a chance to stand in your way. Think outside the box. By delivering unique presentations that make a difference and promise positive change, you'll muster up authentic support. ☀☀☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Mull over what you want to achieve, but be secretive regarding your plans to avoid interference. Listen to your heart, not what someone wants you to believe. Expand your workspace or make room for a project or hobby you want to pursue. ☀☀☀

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put everything in its place and leave nothing to chance. Talks will bring about positive change; however, actions may leave a sour taste in your or someone else's mouth. Try not to ruffle feathers, but don't let anyone take advantage of you. ☀☀☀☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll come up with a plan that looks lucrative. Explore the possibilities and consider how to invest safely in something you want to pursue. Use your entrepreneurial desire to take the path that makes you feel vibrant and confident. Follow your dreams. ☀☀

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Live and learn. Take the time to look at every angle of a situation. An emotional discussion can ruin a relationship with someone you count on for help. Choose your words wisely and stick to the truth. Simplify and live within your means. ☀☀☀☀

Birthday Baby: You are appealing, outgoing and persuasive. You are over-the-top and playful.

☀: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☀☀: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☀☀☀: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☀☀☀☀: Aim high; start new projects. ☀☀☀☀☀: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

8			1							5
	1			6				4		
			5				3			
				2		5				8
	5			8				9		
1			7		3					
			9				8			
	8			1				2		
2				7						3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday Answer

3	7	9	5	1	4	8	2	6
6	8	1	3	7	2	4	9	5
5	4	2	6	9	8	7	3	1
7	5	8	1	3	9	6	4	2
9	2	6	4	8	5	1	7	3
1	3	4	2	6	7	9	5	8
2	1	7	9	5	6	3	8	4
4	9	3	8	2	1	5	6	7
8	6	5	7	4	3	2	1	9

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/29

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

TIDAL BORES

Solution: 5 letters

D E I N C O M I N G S P E E D
E I C Y C N E U Q E R F T E N
G V R N A O R G N I D E E F O
N E R E E B C O A S T A L A N
I R C E C L Z U E D I T N S E
D O N E S T U A R Y M A I N M
E S I O N B I B A R B A O P U O
E I S I Z G O O R B E T U Y N
R O E G N A H C N U N N S T E
B N C O R U M B L E T U T I H
A N R E V E S A M E R D S C P
Y T O W A R N I N G E E P O L
S D F L O O D S E N V L A L E
T N O R F E V A W A I T W E H
G N I H S U P W O R R A N V W

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Amazon, Baan, Bays, Bono, Breeding, Change, Coast, Current, Delta, Direction, Erosion, Estuary, Feeding, Floods, Forces, Frequency, Incoming, Inlet, Mouth, Narrow, Noise, Observe, Ocean, Phenomenon, Pushing, Range, Rare, River, Rumble, Sediment, Severn, Spawn, Speed, Strong, Surge, Tide, Turbulence, Unsafe, Velocity, Warning, Wave Front, Whelp, Zones
Yesterday's Answer: Giggly
The New Treasury 49 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

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NBA camps open; some go abroad, Spurs plan a trip to Uvalde

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Gregg Popovich and the San Antonio Spurs know they cannot erase the pain that the residents of Uvalde, Texas have felt since May 24.

They can, however, continue reminding the city of 16,000 people that they're not forgotten.

The Spurs are planning what they're calling a community impact event in Uvalde on Oct. 8; details are still being finalized, but it seems likely the entire team and Popovich will be making the 85-mile trip from San Antonio to the place where 21 people — 19 of them students — were killed at Robb Elementary School by a gunman four months ago.

Popovich, a five-time champion coach during his Spurs tenure and the NBA's all-time leader in coaching wins, has spoken out often about his desire for tougher gun control laws. He also spoke at an event in Uvalde in June, and the Spurs are one of many teams who have pledged support for the community.

The NBA previously announced the formation of the "Sport for Healing Fund," created to provide "long-term support for the Uvalde community by creating and investing in trauma and healing-

centered care for youth and families." The NBA, along with the Spurs, Dallas Mavericks, Houston Rockets and the NHL's Dallas Stars, made the initial contributions to the fund, which will look to connect with children through sports and building safe places like community outdoor play areas.

PRESEASON CHAMPS

Golden State was the best team in the postseason, as proved by the Warriors winning their fourth NBA title in the last eight years.

They were the best team in the preseason, too. That's rare.

The Warriors went 5-0 in preseason games last season. They became just the second team in 26 years to win an NBA championship after having the best preseason record. The other team on that list was ... the Warriors, in 2016-17.

Golden State was one of five preseason unbeaten last year, with Dallas, New York, Chicago and Sacramento all going 4-0.

Most training camps around the NBA start on Tuesday. This season's NBA preseason slate of games starts Friday in Saitama, Japan — a 6 a.m. Eastern, 3 a.m. Pacific, 7 p.m. local time start between the Warriors and the Washington Wizards. It's the first of 70 pre-



San Antonio Spurs head coach Gregg Popovich talks to the media during the team's NBA basketball Media Day, Monday, Sept. 26, 2022, in San Antonio.

season games on the schedule.

The league is going to 10 places that don't have NBA teams -- Saitama; Seattle; Edmonton; Tulsa, Oklahoma;

Las Vegas; Greensboro, North Carolina; Ontario, California (35 miles from Los Angeles, the home of the Clippers' G League team); Montreal; Bir-

mingham, Alabama; and for the first time, Abu Dhabi, for a pair of matchups between Atlanta and Milwaukee.

Also on the schedule — two non-NBA teams, the Adelaide 36ers of Australia (they'll play Phoenix and Oklahoma City) and Maccabi Ra'anana of Israel (they'll play the Clippers, Portland and Oklahoma City).

The Clippers will be the home team for the two games in Seattle, one against Portland, the other against Maccabi Ra'anana.

Seattle, of course, has NBA history, and hopes of more when the NBA gets around to expansion. It's also near where Clippers owner Steve Ballmer has an estate.

"I haven't been there since I played in 2008, I think it was," Clippers coach Tyronn Lue said. "Just to go back there and Mr. Ballmer, kind of see his offices and how he lives ... I'm excited to go there."

Washington and Atlanta do not have a true home game on their preseason slates; the Wizards will be called "home" for one of the games in Saitama against the Warriors, and the Hawks are the designated home team for one of the games in Abu Dhabi against the Bucks.

And for whatever this is worth — let's be real, it's preseason, so not much — Chicago has the league's longest active preseason winning streak. The Bulls have won seven consecutive exhibi-

tions, one more than Golden State and New York.

On the other end of that spectrum: Portland, which has dropped seven consecutive preseason games, the longest such streak in the league.

HITTING THE ROAD

Most teams are holding training camps at their home facilities, but a few are already hitting the road for their first trips of the season.

Denver is headed to San Diego for camp. Houston is going to McNeese State in Lake Charles, Louisiana. The Los Angeles Clippers will open practice in Las Vegas, at UNLV.

Philadelphia is holding camp at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. Portland headed south to Santa Barbara, California and workouts at UCSB.

Perhaps the two most ambitious trips, though, are the ones by Toronto and Miami.

The Raptors took a five-hour flight from Toronto to Victoria, British Columbia for their camp.

And the Heat were in the air for only 35 minutes, but passports were required. Miami is holding camp in Nassau, Bahamas, about 185 miles away from the team's home.

REMEMBERING RUSSELL

The NBA celebration of Bill Russell's life will continue all season, and beyond. And the feelings about Russell obviously stretch well past Boston, too.

Case in point: Toronto.

Raptors guard Fred VanVleet paid tribute to Russell before his team left for training camp, saying "it's hard to find a better icon and a better ambassador for the game and just for humanity."

"It's hard to put into words what exactly he meant," VanVleet said. "Just an incredible human being and a guy that definitely needs to be held up in the highest respect until the end of time. He had an incredible journey, an incredible life and meant so much to so many people."

KEY DATES

All camps will be open Tuesday; the Wizards, Warriors, Bucks and Hawks could start earlier because of their looming international travel for preseason games.

Preseason games go through Oct. 14. Teams can have up to 20 players on their roster during training camp, but must cut down to 17 (which includes a maximum of two two-way players for each team) by 5 p.m. Eastern on Oct. 17.

The regular season starts Oct. 18.

Take fouls, score changes will be different in NBA this year

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Changing the way the so-called "transition take fouls" are officiated this season won't keep them out of the NBA game.

In fact, the league thinks that sort of play now may make the game better.

The long-awaited rule change — one of the points of education for the NBA going into this season — was a major talking point this week for referees, who gathered for their preseason meetings now that training camps around the league are about to open. There are other emphasis points, but the take-foul changes may be the most significant.

"Some of our best play at the NBA is defensive basketball. We don't want to discourage that; in fact, we think this rule will encourage that because now we're asking you to make a legitimate play on the ball," said Monty McCutchen, the NBA's Senior Vice President overseeing referees and training. "From that standpoint, we think more exciting basketball is on the horizon and these transition scoring opportunities — both defensively and offensively — can be highlight plays. We've lost some of that and we think this rule is go-

ing to inject that exciting play back into our game."

The take foul — in which the defender does not make a play on the ball — is what the league classifies as one that occurs either "during a transition scoring opportunity or immediately following a change of possession and before the offensive team had the opportunity to advance the ball." The exception is in the final 2 minutes of the fourth quarter or overtime.

The new penalty for such a foul is one free throw, which may be attempted by any player on the offended team in the game at the time the foul was committed, along with continued possession by the offended team.

But the league also hopes that defenders making plays on the ball in those situations leads to exciting plays, whether the gamble leads to the offensive team getting an easy score or results in the defensive team cashing in a turnover.

"Our players and our coaches, they're good at their jobs," McCutchen said. "They're good at their jobs, because they're committed at their jobs. They absolutely will stop doing this if we're consistent in our work, which I fully anticipate us being. They'll then know

how to coach it properly. And therein lies the glory of transition basketball being reinjected into our game."

Other points of education this season are holdovers from recent years, such as players having freedom of moment in both the post and on the perimeter, setting proper screens, avoiding travels and having "respect for the game" — often meaning not being overly demonstrative toward referees or others when a call doesn't go their way.

Bench conduct will be more closely monitored as well, after an uptick in recent years of players standing in their bench areas during play and often encroaching on the sideline or baseline — getting perhaps a bit too close to the action.

"That's going to be a little bit of a change," McCutchen said. "We want players on the bench to be able to react spontaneously to exciting basketball play. But it's important that they not stand the whole game, because now you're getting into game integrity issues, injury possibility for game participants, we want to eliminate all that."

There's another change coming, one where some teams won't like seeing the light come on.

When the NBA Replay Cen-

ter in Secaucus, New Jersey, makes a scoring change during play — typically whether a 3-point shot was really a 3 or a 2, or if a basket beat the 24-second shot clock or not — a blue light will flash at the scorer's table, indicating that a decision is about to be announced.

And that change will be announced at the first neutral opportunity, meaning a game could be stopped in certain situations to update the score.

It's designed to eliminate situations like the one in Game 7 of last season's Eastern Conference finals, when Miami's Max Strus made a 3-pointer early in the third quarter for the Heat in their game against the Boston Celtics. About 3 minutes of game time passed before fans in Miami were alerted that those three points were coming off the scoreboard, after the replay center said Strus stepped out of bounds — though the Heat argued that night that they had not seen any definitive angle saying he was clearly on the line.

Miami wound up losing 100-96.

"The new interpretation is going to allow us to exponentially speed that up so everyone has the best information in as close to real-time as they can," McCutchen said.

Yanks clinch AL East as Judge stalls; Cards claim NL Central



TORONTO
(AP)—Aaron Judge walked

four times and stayed at 60 home runs, one shy of Roger Maris' American League record, as the New York Yankees clinched the AL East title by beating the Toronto Blue Jays 5-2 Tuesday night.

The Yankees celebrated their 20th division championship, tied for second-most with the Dodgers behind Atlanta's 21, but not home run history. New York (95-59) secured a first-round bye and home-field advantage in the Division Series.

Judge lined out in his first at-bat and then drew four straight walks in his seventh straight game without a home run. The Yankees have eight games left in the regular season for Judge to tie or break the AL mark set by Maris in 1961.

Despite the loss, Toronto (87-68) maintained its place atop the AL wild-card standings.

Gleyber Torres had three hits and drove in three runs to back Jameson Taillon (14-5), who pitched 7 1/3 sharp innings, allowing two runs and five hits. He's 4-0 in five career starts in Toronto.

José Berrios (11-7) allowed five runs and nine hits in 5 1/3 innings, losing his second straight outing after a six-start unbeaten streak. His ERA rose to 5.37. Berrios reached 1,000 career strikeouts.

Cardinals 6, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Paul Goldschmidt and St. Louis clinched the NL Central title by beating Milwaukee behind six strong innings from Miles Mikolas.

Andrew Knizner hit a two-run homer and Goldschmidt added two RBIs as St. Louis sealed its first division crown since 2019 and fourth straight playoff berth by defeating the team that won last year's NL Central championship.

The Cardinals (90-65) guaranteed themselves at least a tie with second-place Milwaukee (82-72), and they now own the tiebreaker because the victory Tuesday gave St. Louis an insurmountable 10-8 lead in the season series.

The Brewers remain 1 1/2 games behind Philadelphia for the final NL wild card. The Phillies won the season series with Milwaukee and would get the playoff bid if the two teams end up tied.

Braves 8, Nationals 2

In Washington, Ronald Acuña Jr. hit a pair of solo home runs and Atlanta beat Washington, extending its winning streak to four games and moving into a first-place tie in the NL East with the New York Mets.

Orlando Arcia also hom-



New York Yankees' Aaron Judge celebrates the team's 5-2 win over the Toronto Blue Jays in a baseball game Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022, in Toronto.

ered and Michael Harris II had a two-run triple for the Braves, who caught the Mets when they lost 6-4 at home to Miami. Both teams have seven games remaining, including a head-to-head three-game series beginning Friday in Atlanta.

With the win, the Braves (97-58) are guaranteed the No. 2 playoff seed in the National League if they finish ahead of the Mets.

Marlins 6, Mets 4

In New York, Carlos Carrasco had another short start, lasting just three innings as New York fell into a first-place tie in the NL East with a loss to Miami.

The Marlins closed out the Mets not long after Atlanta completed an 8-2 victory over Washington. The Mets and Braves are both 97-58 with seven games left. The teams are scheduled to play a three-game series this weekend in Atlanta, though the path of Hurricane Ian could force a postponement or relocation.

The Marlins scored twice against Carrasco (15-7) in the first, when Bryan De La Cruz delivered a sacrifice fly and Brian Anderson raced home on a wild pitch. They added two more in the third, when JJ Bleday hit a 339-foot homer just over the right-field wall.

Carrasco allowed six hits and walked one with two strikeouts while throwing four or fewer innings for the fourth time in his last six starts.

Rays 6, Guardians 5, 11 innings

In Cleveland, Harold Ramirez's two-run double with two outs in the 11th inning gave Tampa Bay a win over Cleveland, helping the Rays tighten the AL wild-card

race and ending the Guardians' seven-game winning streak.

The Rays closed within 1 1/2 games of Toronto for the wild-card lead.

Ramirez pulled a 1-2 pitch from Trevor Stephan (6-5) down the left-field line for his second double of the game to score Taylor Walls and Wander Franco. The clutch hit — Tampa Bay's first since the fourth inning — allowed the Rays to open a nine-game road trip with a win over the AL Central champion Guardians.

Javy Guerra (2-0) pitched one inning for the win, and Calvin Faucher, Tampa Bay's ninth pitcher, worked the 11th for his first career save.

Jose Siri hit a two-run homer for the Rays.

Padres 4, Dodgers 3, 10 innings

In San Diego, Jorge Alfaro drew a bases-loaded walk from Craig Kimbrel with two outs in the 10th inning and San Diego beat NL West champion Los Angeles to reduce its magic number for clinching a wild-card berth to four.

The Padres started the winning rally against Kimbrel (6-7) when Kim Ha-seong sacrificed automatic runner José Azocar to third. Juan Soto was intentionally walked, Manny Machado struck out and Brandon Drury walked to load the bases. Alfaro worked the count full before walking to bring in Azocar.

Cubs 2, Phillies 1

In Chicago, Marcus Stroman pitched seven innings of four-hit ball, and Yan Gomes hit a tiebreaking double in the seventh inning, lifting Chicago over Philadelphia.

The Phillies' magic number to clinch a National League

playoff berth is stalled at eight after their third straight loss. The Cubs (68-86) won for the sixth time in seven games.

Stroman (5-7) struck out six and lowered his ERA to 2.50 over his last six starts. Rookie Christopher Morel homered in the third inning for Chicago.

Ian Happ led off the seventh with a single through the middle of the infield off Connor Brogdon (2-2). With two out, Gomes poked a double into the right field corner, scoring Happ.

Rangers 5, Mariners 0

In Seattle, top prospect Josh Jung hit two home runs and finished with five RBIs, and Seattle continued slumping in its quest for a postseason berth in a loss to Texas.

Despite the defeat, the Mariners inched closer to ending the longest playoff drought in baseball thanks to Boston's victory over Baltimore. The loss by the Orioles kept them 3 1/2 games behind Seattle and reduced its magic number to five for clinching one of the three American League wild cards.

Jung hit a solo homer in the second inning, and his two-out RBI single in the sixth scored Marcus Semien. Then came the final blow in the eighth. Jung greeted reliever Diego Castillo with a three-run homer to center field for his first career multi-homer game.

Red Sox 13, Orioles 9

In Boston, Baltimore wasted four homers, including two more by Anthony Santander, in a loss to Triston Casas and Boston, hurting the Orioles' chances of earning an AL wild card.

Adley Rutschman and

Ramón Urias also went deep, but Baltimore (80-74) lost for the third time in four games. The Orioles were 3 1/2 back of Seattle for the third AL wild card heading into the day.

Casas hit a two-run homer for Boston, which had dropped six in a row. Tommy Pham had three RBIs, and Rafael Devers hit a two-run single.

The Red Sox scored six runs in the third and five more in the fourth, taking advantage of a series of blunders by the Orioles.

Astros 10, Diamondbacks 2

In Houston, Jose Altuve hit two of Houston's five home runs to lead the Astros over Arizona in a game in which Yordan Alvarez left with an ankle injury.

The AL West champion Astros moved within one win or one loss by the New York Yankees of securing home-field advantage through the AL playoffs.

Altuve made it 5-1 with his solo home run with two outs in the sixth off Ian Kennedy. David Hensley hit his first major league homer with a two-run shot later in the inning, and the Astros went back-to-back with Alex Bregman homering to left. Jeremy Peña added a two-run drive in the eighth.

Alvarez, who is tied for second in the American League with 37 homers, exited in the fifth inning with left ankle discomfort after rolling his ankle running out of the box on a single in the first.

Angels 4, Athletics 3

In Anaheim, Calif., Jo Adell drove in Matt Duffy with a tiebreaking RBI single in the eighth inning, and Los Angeles opened its final homestand of the season with a victory over Oakland.

A.J. Puk (3-3) hit Duffy with an 0-2 slider before pinch-hitter Michael Stefanic bunted Duffy to second, and Adell lined a single to left for just his third RBI in a quiet September.

Duffy, Livan Soto, Shohei Ohtani and Taylor Ward all had two-hit games for the Angels.

Pirates 4, Reds 1

In Pittsburgh, Miguel Andújar hit a tiebreaking three-run double in the seventh inning, leading Pittsburgh past Cincinnati.

Andújar's hit snapped a 1-all tie and came in his second game with the Pirates. The designated hitter was claimed off waivers from the New York Yankees on Sunday.

The Pirates loaded the bases with one out on a single by Oneil Cruz and walks to Bryan Reynolds and Jack Su-

winski by Buck Farmer (2-2). Andújar then hit a long drive off the top of the bullpen door in left-center field, clearing the bases.

Giants 5, Rockies 2

In San Francisco, Logan Webb struck out seven over five innings to win for the fourth time in five starts, and San Francisco continued its dominance of Colorado.

Joc Pederson homered in the first for his 23rd of the year and later added an RBI triple. Mike Yastrezemski added a sacrifice fly in the inning off Rockies right-hander Germán Márquez (8-13). J.D. Davis homered to start the fourth as San Francisco gave Webb (15-9) plenty of run support.

Thairo Estrada contributed a run-scoring single as the Giants opened their final homestand of the season by beating Colorado for the sixth straight time to take a 12-5 advantage in the 2022 season series.

Márquez was tagged for three runs and six hits over six innings with six strikeouts and one walk. His 13 losses are a career high.

Twins 4, White Sox 0

In Minneapolis, Matt Wallner hit a two-run homer, Bailey Ober had a career-high 10 strikeouts and Minnesota beat Chicago.

Ober (2-3) threw a career-high 7 1/3 innings, allowing just two hits.

Wallner, the rookie outfielder from nearby Forest Lake, hit his second homer in his 11th career game and first at home. Jose Miranda added three hits for Minnesota.

Lance Lynn (7-7) gave up four runs on 10 hits in five-plus innings for Chicago. White Sox interim manager Miguel Cairo was ejected following Wallner's homer.

Chicago struck out 14 times in the game.

Tigers 4, Royals 3, 10 innings

In Detroit, Harold Castro singled in the winning run with two outs in the 10th inning after tying it with a two-run single in the eighth in for Detroit.

Tucker Barnhart bunted pinch-runner Ryan Kridler to third and Anthony Misiewicz (3-2) intentionally walked pinch-hitter Eric Haase. Riley Greene struck out, and the Royals decided to walk Javy Báez to pitch to Castro with the bases loaded. He hit a soft grounder up the middle to win it.

Alex Lange (6-4) earned the win.

Kansas City took an early 2-0 lead on a homer by Hunter Dozier, his 10th in 32 career games at Comerica Park.

SIS split two JV bouts

By LEIGH GASES

leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Saipan International School girls junior varsity volleyball team went one for two last Tuesday in the continuation of the Public School System Girls High School Volleyball League 2022-2023 at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The Geckos' first assignment was against Agape Christian School which they lost in three tough sets, 12-

21, 21-18, 5-15.

They bounced back right after and shook off the nerves and fatigue when they played Mount Carmel School. It was a close two sets as they managed to put out the Lady Knights by just 3 points in both sets, winning 21-18, 21-18.

The other junior varsity games for the night was between Saipan Southern High School and MHS JV, with MHS JV winning in two sets,

21-14, 21-10.

Right after, they battled their sister junior varsity team, MHS 9, but were defeated in two tight sets, 22-20, 21-18.

After their games, SIS assistant coach Mili Saiki told *Saipan Tribune* that they've "seen a lot of improvement especially in the skills of bumping, so we are very happy."

Head coach Stacey Eno chimed in and said "we're



LEIGH GASES

Saipan International School junior varsity's Sophia Brasuell serves during their the Public School System Girls High School Volleyball League 2022-2023 game against Mount Carmel School last Tuesday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

just trying to get hits in every play, pass that hit, and so far, it's getting better and better and I'm looking forward to seeing [SIS] prosper for the rest of the season."

With their games, the Geckos JV team is at 3-4.

GCA JV and MHS 9 are both on top with 5-1, MHS JV is at 5-2, ACS JV is at 4-2, SSHS JV is at 3-3, KHS JV is still at 2-4, and MCS JV is at 2-5.

The Public School System Girls High School Volleyball League 2022-2023 is being held with help from the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association.

MARK RABAGO

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Ronnie Santos topped the Fil-Taga Golfers Association Ace of the Month Tournament held last Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Coral Ocean Point Golf Course in Obyan.

The 59-year-old golfer fired a net 78 to win the monthly championship. He started out strong with a gross of 43 in the first nine holes before shooting a 46 in the back nine. He wound up with a gross of 89, which minus his 16 handicap,

Santos is Fil-Taga September winner

gave him the net score to beat for the September ace.

The Taytay, Rizal in the Philippines native, who has been playing golf for 15 years, said he won the tournament last Saturday because of pure luck, especially in the first nine holes of the contest.

Tom Palikkun actually finished tied with Santos but lost in a scorecard tiebreak. The September runner-up came away with his net 73 built

around a gross of 81 (39-42) and a handicap of 8.

Ruben Avendano took third place after firing a 76 net. He shot a 48 in the first nine holes and a 47 in the back for a gross of 95 for the 19-handicapper.

Avendano actually edged Hak Chon Bae for the podium finish after Bae also carded a 76 following a 49-44 in the first and last nine holes to finish with a gross of 93. He held a handicap of 17.



that took part in the Fil-Taga monthly competition were February winner Lito Mendoza (net 77), Albert Pajarillaga (net 78), and Jhun Cayetano (net 81). Adony Matutino also played but shot a pre-handicap score of 103 as he's still establishing his handicap.

The par 3 winners last Saturday were Krishnan (thrice) and Pallikun.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ronnie Santos attributes his win in the Fil-Taga Golfers Association Ace of the Month Tournament last Saturday to pure luck.



GCA

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Mirefel and Chelsea Sonoda tried to turn things over for Hopwood 1, but fell short, as Fatialofa lifted GCA on her shoulders for the tough win.

Meanwhile, before dueling GCA, Hopwood 1 earlier collided against Agape Christian School and

notched a 20-16 win.

Chinessarin Jones recorded 10 points in Hopwood's second win.

FMS 16, Dandan 7 FMS 18, Chacha 2

In other results last Friday, FMS notched its fourth victory in as many games after downing Dandan.

FMS held Dandan scoreless in the second half for

the 9-point win. Before firing blanks in the second half, Dandan lurked behind FMS in the opening half with the latter clinging to a shaky 8-7 lead. Rosie Saralu registered all the baskets for FMS in the first half and continued to dominate the team's offense after the break to extend their winning streak.

Saralu also finished in

double figures (13 points) in their easy win over Chacha.

Agape 31, Hopwood-2 7

Agape clinched win No. 2 after crushing Hopwood 2.

Agape went all out right at the opening buzzer, taking an 18-4 advantage in the first half. Barbara Wang led Agape's early attack with her 13 points and

finished with a game-high 21 markers.

SIS 14, Chacha 0 Tanapag 18, SIS 11

Saipan International School had a split in their Week 2 matches.

The Lady Geckos blanked Chacha Oceanview last Friday for their first win in four games and to bounce back from a loss to Tanapag.

Aubrey White anchored SIS' victory over Chacha after firing 9 points. White also stood up in the Lady Geckos' game against Tanapag, scoring all of SIS' baskets. However, that was not enough to deny the Tataga its third victory in as many games. Kayshlie Aguon powered Tanapag's offense, nailing 12 points, including the squad's last 7.

EAGLES

From Page 20

lowed by Juan Magboo and Mikhaela Kim. Sariol found the back of the net once again to score two goals in the game.

The Kingfishers were left hanging in the air as they were not able to ring the bell again, with the final score of 5-1.

Aside from Sariol, Angeles, Kim, and Magboo, Aaleyah Fatialatu, Allen Gil, Sarang Lee, Richard Li, Joseph Nelson, Cody Paul, Christopher Seidler, Pedro Taitano, and Tristan Torres also make up the GCA team

In the Canaries versus GTC game, the Canaries shut down the Deers after scoring 13 goals and not giving GTC a chance to score.

Scott Pangelinan scored a goal just two minutes into the game, while Jude Rayphand was unstoppable and stole the show with his seven goals. Joaquin Torres made one goal and Pangelinan put up two more goals for the team and silenced the Deers, 13-0.

GES-1, 5, SIS 2

Garapan Elementary School 1 continued their winning streak after defeating Saipan International School, 5-2, to secure the top spot in Group B.

With this win, they will advance to the playoffs alongside SVES 1 in their division.

GES 1 showed they were the superior Mallards team as only a couple of minutes into the game, Kanoa Owens made a shot for the goal and scored. In the game, he had three goals for the team, with Dray Duenas and Rocky Reyes scoring one goal apiece.

The two goals from the Geckos were both made by Quido Jambor.

The Geckos are currently ranked third in Group B with two wins, one draw, and two losses.

KES-1 3, GES-2 3

Koblerville Elementary School 1 ended the game with a draw against Garapan Elementary School 2, 3-3.

Even with this draw, the

Umangs secured their spot as the Group A leader with 4 wins, one draw, and no loss.

Napu Pangelinan collected two goals for the Umangs and Eric Palacios Jr. had one. The three goals from the Mallards were made by Rasal Raj.

GES 2's record is one win, one draw, and three losses.

OES 9, SCS 0

Oleai Elementary School conquered the field as they shut down Saipan Community School, 9-0.

The Turtles won their first game as they gained traction on the field, scoring a goal in the first three minutes of the game.

The momentum carried on as they continued their hold of the ball and scored three more goals in the first half and scored five goals in the second half. Zian Lavarias scored three of the goals, while Marvic Javaluyas scored two.

OES' record is one win and four losses, while SCS has yet to win with five losses.

es. Both are in Group B.

MCS-1 3, MCS-2 2

It was a battle of the Knights as Mount Carmel School 1 took on sister team MCS 2 and defeated them, 3-2.

Logan Propst found the ball early and scored a goal only one minute into the game for MCS 1. Miana Dela Cruz and Zion Ulloa scored the two other goals.

Franco Tudela was the only one who could find the back of the net for MCS w as he scored the only two goals for his team.

With the win, MCS 1 has two wins and three losses and MCS 2 has no wins with five losses. Both are in Group A.

The elementary school Group C has yet to determine which teams will make it to the playoffs.

The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association coordinates the 2022-2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League along with the Public School System Athletic Program.

LADY

From Page 20

a few returns. But the Lady Manta Rays found their footing as they replied and caught up with the Lady Ayuyus, 12-10 with Kagman in the lead.

The Lady Ayuyus got a run for their money as SSHS then tied it up at 12-12, and it seemed like anybody's game at this point. The Lady Manta Rays then scored one more point to take the lead 13-12. However, the Lady Ayuyus grabbed victory out of the Lady Manta Rays' grasp as they won, 15-13.

With this win, KHS is at 2-3, while SHSS has yet to win with six straight losses.

The other varsity game of the night was MHS versus Mount Carmel School, which the Lady Knights took in three sets, 15-21, 21-13, 13-15.

KHS head coach, Ryan Camacho, told *Saipan Tribune* after the game that "it was a very intense game. A lot of good long rallies, especially. The girls really pulled through—they really tried to up the hype themselves

as well as also kind of encourage each other, and they tried to play the full three as much as they could. Other than that, it's a really good game—Southern did a really good job. They really gave us a hard time as well—especially the third set."

The Lady Ayuyus are Jewel Malwelbug, Sheira Dela Rosa, Pia Ngewakl, Keitavia Sos, Edwardina Flamar, Sharlette Casil, Ry'aeko Quitano, Ry'ahna Quitano, Tsubakiko Joab, and Wynesia Quinata.

The Lady Manta Rays are Yasmeen Younis, Brandie Matsumoto, Jasmine John, Mai Peters, Miley Salas, Jasmine Saluta, Lana Sunderland, Leia Pangelinan, Zoe Lee, Casey Cruz, Angel Calage, and Chelsea Cruz.

In the varsity standings, GCA is still on top and undefeated with five wins, MCS is 4-1, MHS and ACS are both at 3-2, SIS is at 3-1.

The Public School System Girls High School Volleyball League 2022-2023 is being held with help from the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association.



NBA camps open;
some go abroad,
Spurs plan a trip to
Uvalde
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SIS split two
JV bouts
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

GCA nips Hopwood 1



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Defending champion Grace Christian Academy nosed out Hopwood Middle School 1, 20-18, in the girls middle school division game in the IT&E Interscholastic Basketball League last Friday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The close win allowed GCA to quickly battle back from its opening week loss to Francisco M. Sablan Middle School and gave the Lady Eagles a 2-1 record for a share of third place in the team standings with Hopwood-1. FMS still leads the nine-team league with a perfect 4-0 mark, while not far behind at second place is Tanapag Middle School,

which is also undefeated after three matches.

Aiyana Fatialofa scored 13 points for GCA, delivering all of the defending champions' 11 markers in the second half to withstand Hopwood 1's comeback bid. Hopwood 1 played catch-up as it only made two baskets in the first half and faced a 4-5 deficit at the break. Jessica

See GCA on **Page 19**

Grace Christian Academy and Hopwood Middle School-1 players battle for the loose ball during their game in the girls middle school division of the IT&E Interscholastic Basketball League last Friday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Eagles, Canaries reach playoffs in ES soccer

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Grace Christian Academy and San Vicente Elementary School 1 both reached the playoffs of the 2022-2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League after they beat

their respective opponents last Monday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

The Eagles beat William S. Reyes 1, 5-1 in Group A of the elementary school division right after the Canar-

ies beat Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, 13-0 in Group B.

The Eagles secured their spot in the postseason, along with group winner Koblerville Elementary School 1, while the Ca-



NMIFA

Grace Christian Academy Eagles elementary school soccer team poses for a photo with their coaches at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

canaries secured their spot along with Garapan Elementary School 1.

GCA and SVES 1's record are both at 4-1. GES 1 is undefeated with five wins and KES 1 has four wins, one draw, and no loss.

In the Eagles-Kingfishers game, the Kingfishers' Marq Hernandez drew first blood after scoring a goal eight minutes into the first half, but that was the extent of the team's run as they were silenced the rest of the game.

When the Eagles grabbed a hold of the ball, they soared their way through the field, kicking and passing the ball as Princess Sariol scored the first goal for the Eagles 15 minutes in.

Teammate Mateo Angeles bagged a goal for himself a couple of minutes after, fol-

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Lady Ayuyus beat Lady Manta Rays in HS v-ball

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Kagman High School scooped up their second win after they beat Saipan Southern High School in three tough, nail-biting sets last Tuesday in the continuation of the Public School System Girls High School Volleyball League 2022-2023 at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The Lady Ayuyus started off with an explosion, beating the Lady Manta Rays in the first set, 21-17. Then, SSHS fought back with some tough rallies as they eventually won the second set and forced a third set.

The third set looked to be an easy win for the Lady Ayuyus as they landed a streak of points while the Manta Rays mishandled

See LADY on **Page 19**



LEIGH GASES

Kagman High School girls varsity volleyball team is seen after their win over Saipan Southern High School varsity in the Public School System Girls High School Volleyball League 2022-2023 last Tuesday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium